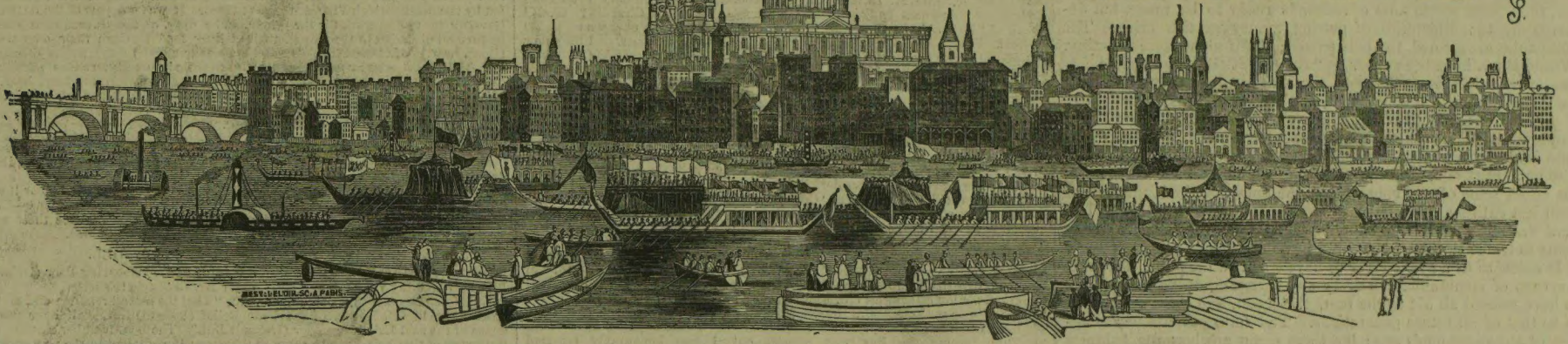


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1847.

[SIXPENCE.]

THE GREAT EMPLOYER.



COMMON consent has been given by all parties to the Ministerial measures in Ireland; yet that common consent does by no means imply universal approval. The time and the necessity alike forbid a severe analysis, or an opinion very generally entertained would be more freely declared—that these measures are rather a mass of expedients, and those old ones, than a scheme of policy. The number of separate acts and bills, with different sets of machinery, confuse the mind; there is no discerning where they run into and cross each other. They include many objects; some of them, judged by the enormous scale on which all national wants must be measured, almost ludicrously small—the grant of £50,000 for seed, for instance. All the loans, grants, and remissions of debt, to the Irish proprietors, are new versions

of a very old song: with the single exception of the extension of the Poor Law, there is nothing in the plan that reaches through the present into the future. It is impossible not to think that the Government is losing a splendid opportunity of effecting much permanent good, if we look merely at one of its omissions.

It has become, for a time, at least, the "Great Employer:" its money is the spring of the social machine; and "the Government"—magnificent abstraction!—ever invested by the popular mind with powers far beyond those it ever has or ever ought to have, is the merchant, miller, money-lender, drainer, seedsman, and road-maker of a whole nation. Its trade in provisions will, we hope, be rendered unnecessary by a return of the more natural state of things. Drainage and agricultural improvements generally would be done better by anybody than by the Government, which invariably pays more and gets less work for it than any other master. A money-lender the Government has always been, in one shape or other; and if it makes its advances with a wise generosity, with its command of funds it can do much that individuals could never attempt. Governments have likewise been the first road-makers in all countries—in many, are still the only ones. That most of the public money, then, should within the last few months have been expended in work on the roads in Ireland is natural enough, and quite according to precedent. But it is possible to follow precedent too blindly; and the weight of opinion in Ireland itself, as expressed through its members, is that this labour has been almost thrown away. The "Great Employer" has been at fault, and, with all his outlay of money, has done nearly as much harm as good: we except, of course, the maintenance of the people: that has been so far effected, with dreadful suffering—yet still effected. But with enormous sums of money to be spent, a great quantity of

labour to be employed—the employment being, in fact, the life of thousands—could not the work have been thrown upon something more beneficial than the universal Macadamizing that seems to have been going on in Ireland?

When the Roman legions conquered a country, the soldier changed the sword for the spade, and cut roads over its surface, the Imperial Treasury being the paymaster. But then they were the very best sort of roads known in that age; they are wonderful, indeed, even at the present day, when we have shot far ahead of anything the Romans ever dreamed of. We do not hear of their cutting footpaths through Gaul after having constructed an "Appian Way" to the very gates of the Mistress of the World. We fear we are not so wise in our generation. With a thousand miles of railroad in full operation, with a perfect knowledge that the new system will ultimately supersede the old one, and Mac-Adam become exploded, or driven into by-paths, and that men, despising the admonition of Bacon, will not stand upon the *viæ antiquas* any longer, seeing that the new ones are better, the Government is content to spend millions in breaking granite into lumps, and spreading them thinly over certain portions of the surface of Ireland, and to call the process "road-making." It was the way roads were made once, certainly; but a change has come over the world, and there goes more to the construction of the paths of men than a pauper, a hammer, and a heap of pebbles.

We have spent now something like two millions of money in Ireland on the old system, that a few years hence will be superseded; the work being given half as charity, the object was rather the employment of certain numbers for a certain time, than the securing the best results from the labour. Thus, we hear it stated by those who must have the means of knowing, that roads have



THE ELEPHANT PLOUGH, FOR PREPARING A SUGAR PLANTATION.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

been "repaired" that did not want mending, and new ones made where none were required—that some, in fact, have been cut, "leading from nothing to nowhere." So general has been the "mending" process, that for miles and miles in some districts of Ireland, the roads are almost impassable. The difficulty of getting over a piece of fresh Macadamised road is well known to all travellers; getting along a few miles of one perfectly new is still worse; fifteen or twenty miles of broken stones is now a common thing in Ireland, and the consequence is, travelling is stopped or delayed, and the mails are four or five hours going the distance they used to do before the "improvements" in one or two!

Now, while all this useless labour was being employed and paid for, there were whole lines of railroads ready to be made, but deferred by the difficulties of getting money at this crisis. The companies are formed, the bills passed; funds alone were wanting. Would it not have been wiser if "the Great Employer" had advanced some of his millions to those companies, taking the line itself as a security for repayment, and accompanying the loan with a positive condition that as much as possible of the work that employs unskilled labour should be proceeded with at once? Ireland is almost a new field of railways; its system will be a separate and entire one, and the Government might have secured at the outset some of that control over the lines that in England has been lost entirely. We have always heard that with roads Ireland was remarkably well supplied before, but railroads give an impetus to traffic that can be secured in no other way.

It seems to us a grave error to have spent all the public funds on a system of communication every day becoming more useless, and to have refused all aid to the best, the latest, and the one destined to be that of all future generations. The future should be the object of the statesman's acts; but there seems nowhere the boldness that can shake itself free from the fetters of the past; so we overlook Stephenson and Brunel, and all the wonders they have worked, and cling as if infatuated to the old shovel and hammer system of our fathers. We have spent our money and done no good, where we might, with no greater outlay, have afforded as much relief, and had great and useful results to show for it. Lord George Bentinck has done well in forcing this question distinctly upon the Government, as he did on Thursday evening.

THE "ELEPHANT PLOUGH,"

AS USED FOR PREPARING A SUGAR PLANTATION.

The peculiar and heavy character of the tillage required for the cultivation of the sugar-cane, renders it necessary to employ implements of great strength, and peculiar construction, to cut and ridge the trenches, which are five feet apart, and deep in proportion.

The Plough used for this purpose (shown upon the preceding page) is the invention of the Messrs. Ransomes and May, of Ipswich: it is constructed entirely of wrought iron and steel, having a mould-board on either side; and, from the vast quantity of earth it has to dislodge in its progress, requiring great mechanical power to draw it, it has been especially adapted for elephant labour. It will be perceived that the collar prevents the driver sitting upon the neck. Several of these Ploughs have already been sent to India, and report speaks highly of their effective operation.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

FRANCE.

We are sorry to say that our private letters from Paris speak of great excitement among the population, in consequence of the high price of bread. The Faubourg St. Antoine, so often the scene of rioting among the workmen, has several times been thronged with noisy groups, but they have not yet proceeded to any acts of violence.

The rise in the price of bread was expected to create some disturbances in Paris on Sunday and Monday, but fortunately none occurred. The authorities, however, adopted great precaution to prevent an outbreak. The streets were patrolled during the night by large parties of cavalry. The whole of the guards were doubled, and all the troops of the garrison of Paris were armed, to be ready for service in case of need. Fortunately, however, nothing occurred to render all these precautions necessary. The price of bread is now higher in Paris than it has been for the last fifty years.

The Chamber of Deputies has commenced the discussion on the Address. Mr. Roger was the first speaker against the Address. The hon. member said he regarded the incorporation of Cracow as a plan long since contemplated by the Northern Powers. The protest made by the French Government he considered, as inefficient, and he censured the Ministry for the conduct it had adopted, which was, in his opinion, wanting in proper dignity. M. Desmousseaux de Givry spoke in favour of the Address, and defended the policy pursued by the Ministry with regard to Cracow. He considered, however, the paragraph relative to peace to be couched in too affirmative terms, but he did not, nevertheless, fear that war would ensue.

In the Chamber of Deputies, on Tuesday, the order of the day was the discussion on the Address (paragraph 3, referring to the Spanish marriages). M. Lesseps, in a maiden speech, spoke at some length in opposition to the policy of the Government on the subject. M. Laverne followed, taking an opposite view, and praising the Ministry for the policy it had pursued on the occasion. M. Cremieux denied that the marriages were of utility to France—they had placed her in a state of isolation; he also denied that the principle that a Bourbon should reign in Spain was a sound one, inasmuch as that family had never contributed to the happiness of that country.

M. Guizot rose in his place, and, without going to the tribune, declared that after the moderation which had presided in the discussions of the English Parliament, he thought it his duty to postpone any explanations which he might have to give, hoping that a reconciliation could not fail to take place between the two countries. After these observations, received with marks of unequivocal satisfaction by the Chamber, the third paragraph was adopted with the greatest unanimity.

M. Dufaure then rose to develop the amendment which he had proposed in concert with M. Billault:—"If, in consequence of this event, dissension has arisen between your Government and that of a neighbouring people, France has a right to expect that a good understanding will be re-established without detriment to her interests or to her dignity." After a short discussion, this amendment was rejected by 242 to 28. The most important incident of the debate was the announcement of M. Guizot that he did not, after the friendly feeling that had been manifested in the English Parliament, intend to speak at all upon the paragraph, unless he should be attacked. In fact, M. Guizot did not speak, a circumstance that has excited the ire of the Opposition press.

On Sunday last, being the anniversary of the birthday of the Duchess of Montpensier, the Marquis de Brinabala, accompanied by the gentlemen composing the Spanish Embassy in Paris, went to compliment her Royal Highness. All the Spaniards of distinction at present residing in Paris were also received on the occasion. The Duchess has now attained her fifteenth year.

M. Janbert, Peer of France, and father-in-law of M. Dufaure, of the Chamber of Deputies, died last week at Paris. The Duke de Sabran, Peer of France, died at Marseilles a few days ago.

Very great curiosity has been excited in Paris by the appearance of M. Dumas, the eminent novelist, in the character of a defendant at the Tribunal de la Seine. The complaint was preferred by the *Constitutionnel* and *La Presse*, and some other Paris papers, the charge being that M. Dumas had broken his engagement with the two above-named journals in the year 1845, and for not having written any one of the works he promised to write for 1846. The damages demanded were 50,000 francs. M. Alex. Dumas pleaded his own cause, in a style marked rather by eloquence than by modesty, as follows:—"Gentlemen, I desired to plead my cause in person, because the circumstance which brings me before you is not an affair of man to man, or interest against interest, but rather a sort of duel between honour and honour. I regret not seeing here M. Veron (of the *Constitutionnel*) and M. Girardin (*Presse*), for I shall be obliged to fire in the air, and the ball, instead of striking them, will fall at their feet." M. Dumas then read the double agreement entered into between MM. Veron, Girardin, and himself, and remarked that, although that agreement was a conditional one, the *Constitutionnel* and *La Presse* announced on the following day, that "M. Dumas, being free from his engagements on the death of M. Dujarrier, had entered into an agreement with them to write exclusively for them for the term of five years." "That was not true," said M. Dumas, "as I still had to publish about eighty volumes on previous agreements, making altogether 226,000 lines, a number which the Academy, if they were called upon to produce an equal number in two years (and they are forty), would find no easy task to accomplish. I am accused of not having provided M. Veron with four volumes on the 1st of July, and four others on the 15th of December; but, owing to a clause in that agreement, the agreement itself was subordinate to the annulling of the previous agreement with M. Dujarrier. Until then, M. Veron could demand nothing of me, and, on the other hand, I could not fulfil in December an engagement which was only confirmed on the 1st of January. I had, therefore, to fulfil my previous engagements, and I did what I may say no man ever did before me, or will do hereafter. I began the publication of five different novels in five different papers at the same time, and completed them: my adversaries are there to say if it was not all in my own handwriting. On the 15th August, M. Veron called upon me, and said, 'My dear Dumas, we have been unlucky enough to publish a feuilleton likely to renew the glorious days of the *désabonnement* to the *Constitutionnel*; we have still eight days of it left, but if we do not then give the public an interesting amusing novel, such as you write (these are his own words) it is all up with us. We must have it this day week.' 'Eight days is quite sufficient,' I replied (laughter)—'when a man is idle, but not so when a man has five feuilletons in hand.' And I was at that moment publishing five feuilletons in five different journals. Three horses, three servants, and the railway, scarcely sufficed to bring me the proof sheets. At two A.M. my servants

were on the route to St. Germain. Nevertheless agreed to do it, and on the day appointed, August 27, he received the first volume." M. Alex. Dumas then explained that while the *Constitutionnel* and the *Presse* announced that he worked exclusively for them, the *Siècle*, the *Débats*, the *Patrie*, and the *Commerce* announced the publication of feuilletons from him to which they were duly entitled. He stated that at the advance he had received from M. Girardin was 454 francs, and that he had to pay him (M. Dumas) 157,000 francs within three years. M. Dumas remarked that at the time of his departure for Spain he had published forty-eight volumes in eighteen months. He was tired, he said—many would have been tired much sooner—and was obliged to procure a certificate from his medical adviser to pacify M. Girardin. After some further remarks, M. Dumas said, "The *Mode* announced a novel by me, entitled 'Elizabeth.' This work did not, and could not, belong to me. I always had a deep hatred to the name of Elizabeth. I have written twenty-seven dramas, and an immense number of novels, but you will not find the name of Elizabeth mentioned in any one of them. Shall I allude," said M. Dumas, in conclusion, "to the pecuniary sacrifices I have made to remain on good terms with MM. Veron and Girardin? Shall I speak of 'Fabien' burnt, and the volumes I bought off at an expense of 44,000 francs? From those gentlemen I received 26,000 or 27,000 francs, and they now ask 50,000 francs damages; so that, after having already disbursed 44,000 francs, I should still have to pay 33,000 more. This might astonish people if it was not known that the persons I am at law with are, one the inventor of the *pâte de Regnaud*, and the other the founder of the *Musée des Familles* (Sensation in the Court.) Those gentlemen pretend that at my villa at St. Germain I remained idle. I wrote there eight volumes of 'Balsamo.' At the same time I was occupied with representations of Shakespeare and Dumas in the Theatre of St. Germain; but I do not think I can be reproached for that, especially as I gave them 27,000 lines in two months. As regards my journey to Spain, I never solicited a mission; the Duke of Montpensier, *qui a quelques bonités pour moi*, said to me, as his brother had said formerly, 'Come to my marriage; I wish you to be present at a national fête.' M. de Salvandy then asked me if I could leave for Spain and Algeria, and I replied that it was the very thing for me, as I required repose. 'You will then go to Spain,' said the Minister, 'and to Algeria, a country not much known, especially to our deputies, who speak about it every day without knowing anything at all about it.' (Laughter.) I left for Spain as a guest, and was the only Frenchman present at the private marriage. It was then I received the grand cordon of Charles III., which was given, not to the literary man, but to the man—to me, Alexandre Dumas, Marquis Daoy de la Paillerie, and friend of the Duke of Montpensier. (Sensation in Court.) I thence went to Tunis, where the Bey was absent, but I was honourably received by his brother, who received me as a French envoy, and conferred upon me the order of the Nichan. I did not lose my time, but collected during my stay such valuable documents, that in four days, if I liked, I could publish an entire work. In order to reach Tunis, the French Government had placed at my disposal the steamer *Veloce*, of 220 horse power: it was for the use of myself and the Bey of Tunis alone. Such favours are only granted to Princes and friends. We were close to the African coast when I learnt (speaking with a sort of inspiration) that our prisoners might be liberated by a prompt intervention on my part. Twelve lives were to be saved—twelve lives which were every moment in danger of falling by the knife: amongst these were brave officers, and a woman—the sole remnant of the unfortunate captives who escaped the massacre of Sidi Brahmin. It was I, who, with the *Veloce* under my orders, saved Captain Cognard and his brave comrades, and brought them to Mellina, where 3000 persons offered me a banquet, the reminiscence of which is sufficient to repay me for any injuries I may have received here. I am now, forsooth, asked for 50,000 francs damages for having been idle—whilst I—yes, I—saved from the sword of the enemy the lives of twelve of my country! I took six persons in my suite, who represented the art of painting, as I myself represented the art of literature. To defray my expenses, I was obliged to sell railway shares to the amount of 50,000 francs, on which I lost 7000 francs, and I spent 21,000 francs of my own money. The 10,000 francs were only to be touched on my arrival at Algiers. I spent 11,000 francs; but the day after my return I returned 1000 francs to the Minister. Such, gentlemen is the true statement of facts." The decision on the case has not yet been given.

The accounts of the state of public feeling in some of the provinces of France are still alarming, and there have been further disturbances.

The *Moniteur* publishes a telegraphic despatch, dated Marseilles, announcing that the Government steam-boat *Etna* had been wrecked at Tenez on the 20th of January; the passengers and crew were saved.

SPAIN.

Last week, we announced that the Isturitz Ministry had resigned. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in the formation of a new Cabinet. Various expedients were resorted to, and different individuals had been commissioned by the Queen to form a Cabinet, who successively failed in accomplishing that object. M. Mon, whose refusal of the department of Finance formed one of the principal difficulties, was sent for to the Palace, and personally requested by the Queen to co-operate in the formation of a Ministry. That financier, however, respectfully declined, assuring her Majesty that he could not, under existing circumstances, accept office with advantage to the State, or satisfaction to himself. After several failures, M. Casa Irujo succeeded in bringing together M. Mon, Bravo Murillo, and Armero; but, at the last moment, MM. Mon and Armero desired that the Ministry of the Interior should be given to M. Pidal, to which the other two peremptorily objected, and at the moment when it was expected that all was settled, M. Casa Irujo presented himself at the Palace, resigned his commission, and advised her Majesty to send for M. Castro y Orsoco. This Deputy accepted the mission, and immediately put himself in communication with MM. Pacheco and Bravo Murillo, who proposed different systems of policy, the former one of concession, and the latter one of resistance.

El Tiempo of the 27th ult. pretends that the Queen had manifested a preference for M. Bravo Murillo or M. Pacheco; and that the Ministry would consist of the Duke de Rivas, MM. Bravo Murillo, Seljas Lezano, Santillon, Donozo Cortes, and Roca de Togores.

El Espanol asserts that M. Castro y Orsoco has presented a complete list to the Queen of the persons who are to form his Ministry.

Letters from Bayonne announce that the Carlist demonstration in Upper Catalonia is beginning to assume a grave character. At Lleyde a detachment of the Royal troops have been defeated by a band of Carlists, commanded by Tristany in person. This nascent war General Breton has baptised in blood by the execution of four Carlists at Tremp.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

We have received Cape papers to the 6th December, which date is only a few days later than our previous advices, and the news is unimportant, except in so far as it affords some prospect of peace on the frontier. It has been proposed that a part of the Gaika territory shall be taken under our rule, and be styled British Kafirland; and even the Tambooke Chief, Umtarra, is said to have expressed a desire that his country likewise should be brought under our control. The natives were evincing much confidence in the moderation of the English, and besides furnishing the camp with firewood, &c., were cultivating their gardens. Still the Governor was concentrating his troops, and was not trammelled by any specific truce. The line of the British territory is expected to be from the mouth to the source of the river Kei.

The accounts from the frontier advise the recapture, by Colonel Somerset, of 2000 head of cattle, the property of the colonists.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The Overland Bombay Mail of the 2d January, arrived on Thursday, *via* Trieste. The dates of the papers are, Madras, Dec. 24; Calcutta, Dec. 23; Bombay, Jan. 2; China, Nov. 28. The news, which is rather important, is all comprised in the following abstract of the summary of the *Bombay Times*:—Interesting events have just occurred in the Punjab and Scinde. The Vazeer Lall Singh having been suspected of a treasonable connection with the Cashmere insurgents, had the charge brought home to him by the Sikh Emaumood-Deen, on the evidence of letters written by the Vazeer to him while in arms. The inquiries were conducted in presence of a commission consisting of Sikh chiefs and British officers—Mr. Currie and Colonels Lawrence and Goldie being amongst the latter. It was intimated to the Durbar, that should a convicted traitor remain in power, we should be under the necessity of ceasing to hold intercourse with the Government, and Lall Singh was accordingly deposed, and removed, under our protection, to Hindoostan. Had he remained in his own country, his life would quickly have been sacrificed to the indignation of the people. The Government was now entrusted to a commission of chiefs, and the question pressed as to the arrangements contemplated by them on our retirement. After much equivocation and delay, it was determined to ask of us to permit an army of ten thousand men to remain at Lahore during the minority of the Maharajah—our commissioner virtually to exercise the functions of Vazeer. To this we assented, the Sikhs degrading all the charges of our troops, amounting to a quarter of a million sterling annually. The Maharajah is now a child of seven years old; and for the next ten years at least the Punjab is in the hands of the British Government, and controlled by a British Army. The Sikh Government have thus voluntarily undertaken to defray the extra charges of an army at Lahore, which for own protection we must have maintained at any rate on the frontier! Such has been the success of the much-censured policy of Lord Hardinge, refusing to conquer or spoil the country which has now been voluntarily and tranquilly placed in our hands without obloquy, trouble, or charge. Just as the army on the Indus was about to be reduced from 22,000 to 14,000 men, a foray of the Booghtie tribe from the mountains has driven in our outposts and compelled a whole cavalry regiment to retire. The enemy were computed at 2000 on their first appearance in the field. They succeeded in ravaging numerous villages, carrying off the sheep and cattle, in the face of our troops.

Sir Charles Napier continues at Kurrachee, where the climate is healthy. He is expected at Bombay in February on his way to England; the Government of Scinde to be entrusted to a civil commission—preparatory, it is to be hoped, to its final abandonment. Matters at Cabool would seem to be in a better condition than formerly. The Ghilzie Chief who had so long been annoying the Government had intimated his desire for a cessation of hostilities, and in token of the sincerity of his intentions had sent his son as a pledge of his future peaceable behaviour.

The districts around Gwalior are said to be in a sad state; murders and robberies being of frequent occurrence—the commission of any atrocities being overlooked by the native authorities for a consideration.

The deaths of two eminent individuals are announced, Major-General Vans Kennedy, oriental translator to the Bombay Government, favourably known for the accuracy and worth of his works on military law; and Captain T. Postans, author of an able work on Scinde. Lord Hardinge is understood to have resolved on the reduction of the postage throughout India, and the introduction of a system similar to that of Rowland Hill.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

IRISH PAUPERS IN LIVERPOOL.—Lord Brougham presented a petition from the Mayor and Magistrates of Liverpool, complaining of the immigration of Irish paupers. He found that, in fourteen days, 11,104 persons had come from Ireland to Liverpool, being at the rate of 800 a day. On last Thursday, upwards of 1124 arrived by two steamers. (Hear.) The petitioners stated that they were informed that thousands of the poor Irish were begging their way to the Irish ports with a view of reaching Liverpool. They therefore prayed the House to interfere for their relief, and they humbly hoped that Parliament would not separate without passing some measure for the support of the poor in Ireland. On that subject he (Lord Brougham) would not now express an opinion; but the grievance of which the petitioners complained was certainly an extreme one. He denied the right of the poor to be fed except by their own labour. They had a right to be fed by the means which Providence gave them. It was no part of the duty of a Government to find work for the people. The duty of the Government was to remove all obstacles in the way of their getting food through their own work. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that we should not take a step in the wrong direction, and, by being coaxed by compliments paid to their humanity, relieve particular classes in Ireland from the duties which they had to perform. (Hear, hear.)—The Marquis of WESTMEATH admitted the grievance complained of, but denied that it could be laid at the door of the Irish landlords.

The House adjourned after a short sitting.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. D. O'CONNELL, jun., took the oaths and his seat for Dundalk, being introduced by his brother, Mr. J. O'Connell.

THE WELLINGTON STATUE.—Captain POLHILL wished to know whether it was intended to allow the Wellington Statue to remain in its present position?—Lord MORPETH said that Government had intimated to the sub-committee their wish that the statue should be removed from the place where it now was.

THE LABOURING POOR (IRELAND) BILL.

On the order of the day for the second reading of the Labouring Poor (Ireland) Bill, for rendering valid the acts done under Mr. Labouchere's letter,

Mr. WILLIAMS moved, as an amendment, "That the second reading, and all the other stages in this House, of the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill, shall have precedence of the said Labouring Poor (Ireland) Bill." The hon. member assured the Government that he should be sorry to throw any impediment in the way of their measures; and that he would hesitate to interpose with his amendment if he thought there was any danger to be apprehended to the passing of their Indemnity Bill; but, from expressions which had fallen from Lord Lansdowne in another place, he doubted if the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill would be carried out fully and efficiently; and he had heard it rumoured that this bill was the only one of the Irish measures to which the Irish members had objection; therefore, he thought it ought to have precedence of the other bill, although he was far from believing that, as then framed, it would be effectual for its professed purpose.

The amendment found no seconder, and the order of the day was read.

On the motion that the Labouring Poor Bill be read a second time, Mr. B. OSBORNE strongly condemned the Labour-rate Act of last session, and censured the Government for not calling Parliament together at an earlier period, after the discovery of the extent of the loss of the potato crop. The proposal of advancing £50,000 for the purchase of seed was utterly inefficient. It would scarcely suffice for 25,000 Irish acres, and unless much more was done all the small farms under ten acres would be uncultivated, and the next harvest would be of necessity much shorter than the last. Next year, therefore, they might look forward to more appalling evils than they had then to deal with. He much doubted the success of the plan for redeeming the waste lands of Ireland.

Mr. SMITH O'BRIEN examined *seriatim* all the statements made by Lord John Russell, in laying his Irish scheme before the House, and remarked upon those measures. The honourable member asserted that the potato had been underestimated—the money loss having been, according to his calculation, between twenty and thirty millions sterling for Ireland alone.

Mr. ROEBUCK protested, in the name of his hard-working, industrious fellow-countrymen, against the whole scheme of the Government—against indemnifying the Irish landlords for the consequences of their own extravagance and misconduct—against squandering public money upon waste lands—and against the inefficient Poor Relief Bill introduced by the Government. The English Poor-Law, with all its machinery, ought to be extended to Ireland; the law of real property there ought to be investigated searchingly; and some means ought to be devised for giving to the Irish priesthood solid motives for desiring peace and order. To do away with the law of mortmain, and allow parish priests to acquire real property to the amount of £300 a year, would, in his opinion, soon attain that end.

Lord BERNARD said that the corn-merchants of many towns in the south of Ireland had combined to keep up the price of corn, to their own great advantage, but to the great augmentation of the sufferings of the people; and yet, these were the people the Government was so reluctant to interfere with, and to whom the political economists would have them leave the supply of food to a starving people.

Sir R. H. INGLIS hoped the sentiments of Mr. Roebuck, as regarded the present measures of Government, would be repudiated by the people of England, and that nothing would be thought of but the extreme misery of a large portion of our fellow-subjects, and the means of giving speedy and effectual relief. He also contended that an efficient Poor-Law would be a virtual tax on the absentee landlords of Ireland.

Colonel CONOLLY said, the Poor-Law at present in operation in Ireland worked remarkably well, but he feared that to increase the rates would be to prevent the future collection of even those which were now paid without objection. He could not approve of the waste lands plan of reclamation, but thought the Government ought to appropriate a larger sum than £50,000 for the purchase of seed, taking good security from the landlords for the repayment of the money in nine, twelve, or fifteen months, as they might see proper. He should not oppose out-door relief to the decrepit, the diseased, and helpless, but he could not approve of its being extended to the able-bodied.

Mr. HUME said that hon. Irish gentlemen might well express their approbation of the measures proposed by the Government, because they were about giving them nothing but money. But the course they were taking would not raise Ireland, but only sink England. He could not see in any of these measures hope of radical amelioration. He thought the House, before they assented to the passing of any of these bills, should insist on having from the Minister a distinct statement of the expense they would cost to the country. Whilst affording immediate relief to Ireland, it was the duty of the House to require that, for the future, Ireland should be charged with the maintenance of her own people, and that radical changes should be made in her legislation and administration. He trusted no such wild scheme as the reclamation of waste land would be allowed to be carried into operation.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that, up to September last, the amount of money spent under the Labour-rate Act was £290,000, the effect of which was certainly to raise the rate of wages, and to prevent the influx of Irish labourers into England and Scotland. This expenditure was continued until the farmers represented the difficulty of procuring agricultural labourers, upon which it was, of course, stopped. He believed that, in the present terrible calamity, the absentee landlords of Ireland had done the most towards its amelioration. The right hon. gentleman proceeded to answer the various objections made to the bill, and entered largely into the general state of Ireland. He concluded with the following appalling statement, regarding the scarcity of food in that country:—"He did not think they had overstated the loss of food in Ireland in valuing it at £15,000,000 sterling. (Hear, hear.) In naming such a fact, he thought he had said that which would call forth the sympathies of that House, and of the people of this country. (Hear, hear.) Let there be abuses if they would; let all classes in Ireland have misbehaved themselves, if they would; yet, they could not conceal from themselves that hundreds were dying from week to week. (Hear.) It was with pain he could not describe that he perused from day to day, the accounts which reached him from all parts of the west of Ireland of deaths from starvation. No local assistance or fund could provide for anything approaching to this state of things. (Hear, hear.) It was a national visitation (hear, hear), and they must all, to a large extent, come forward and assist their suffering brethren in Ireland. (Cheers.) He did not believe that this country would be unwilling to extend its aid under circumstances such as these. (Cheers.) It was, he trusted, a temporary calamity, and he prayed that God might bless them with a good harvest in the coming season; but there were some months before them, in which it was impossible that the suffering of their Irish brethren could be other than most severe. He did hope that there would be no indisposition in this country to relieve that suffering (hear, hear, hear); but he must, at the same time, impress upon the gentlemen of Ireland that they had a duty to perform (hear, hear), and that, if this country gave them assistance, she must call upon them for personal exertion. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) No pecuniary sacrifice we could make would do any good, unless distributed by the agency of resident persons (hear, hear), as they only could know who were the destitute, and could visit the cabins of those that were perishing from want of food. (Hear.) He could not convey to the House the feelings under which he spoke of this painful subject; and he only wished he could convey the feeling he had of the necessity of exertion on the part of all parties in Ireland, and of the conviction that no private, that nothing but national, resources could effect the object which all must have at heart." (The right hon. gentleman, who spoke with much feeling throughout, was loudly cheered on resuming his seat.)

On the motion of Mr. HAMILTON, the debate was adjourned till Tuesday.

The Buck Wheat, &c., Bill was read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned at a quarter-past twelve.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

Scarcely anything occurred worth notice.

On the motion of the Duke of RICHMOND, the Select Committee of 1815 was re-appointed, to enquire into the expediency of a legislative enactment being introduced to enable possessors of entailed estates to charge such estates with a sum, to be limited, for the purpose of draining, and otherwise permanently improving the same.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE laid on the table a copy of the communications which had taken place between this country, Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Switzerland, in 1845. The noble Marquis then laid on the table a copy of the convention between her Majesty and the King of the Sandwich Islands, which he was happy to say, had been made on the best possible terms. (A laugh.)

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE also presented a copy of a treaty containing the accession of the King of Saxony to the convention entered into between Great Britain and Prussia, in 1846, respecting international copyright.

The House adjourned till Thursday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE ANDOVER UNION.—Mr. ETWALL gave notice that on the 16th instant he would bring under the consideration of the House the report and evidence of the Select Committee of last session on the Andover Union. (Cheers.)

THE BUDGET.—In reply to a question from Mr. ROEBUCK, Lord J. RUSSELL stated that it was the intention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to make his general financial statement on an early day, after the House shall have assented to the Irish measures.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS.—Lord J. MANNERS gave notice of his intention on the 16th instant to bring in a Bill relating to Charitable Trusts.

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE.

The Adjourned Debate on the Labouring Poor (Ireland) Bill was resumed by Mr. HAMILTON, who defended the Relief Committees and the landlords of Ireland, and contended that although the great absentee proprietors in that country had done their duty in the present emergency, yet much of the misery which prevailed was to be attributed to the course pursued by the smaller absentee proprietors of the soil. He did not object to relief being given under existing circumstances to the destitute able-bodied labourer, but he believed it would be most mischievous to make such a measure permanent in its operation.

After several Hon. Members had given their opinions upon the measure, Mr. LABOUCHERE defended the conduct of the Government, and maintained that the Labour-rate Act had been productive of great benefit. He gave unbounded praise to those Irish landlords who had distinguished themselves during the present calamity by their public spirit and private charity; but, at the same time, he felt constrained to declare that the Government had not met from the Irish gentry, generally speaking, with that support which they had a right to expect. They had yet a fearful crisis to go through, and he should despair of the task before him did he not hope for the unanimous co-operation of the gentlemen of Ireland. He believed it to be the general wish of the House to allow these bills to be read a second time, and to reserve all discussions upon them for the Committee; and it certainly was most important that as little delay as possible should intervene. He did not believe that, as yet, much damage had been done by drawing the people from the cultivation of the soil; but not a moment should be lost in carrying the measures which were designed to restore the labourers to the tillage of their lands. He insisted that the determination of the Government not to interfere with the course of trade was most wise; had they turned retail traders in food, the utmost confusion would have ensued, and the horrors of famine would have been aggravated. With respect to the permanent measures framed by the Government for raising the social state of Ireland, he considered it most unjust to describe them as having for their object to enrich the landlords without regard to the great body of the people. The right hon. gentleman concluded by expressing his belief that the generous spirit demonstrated by the representatives of England and Scotland was of almost equal importance to the measures themselves.

Sir R. PEEL reserved himself for the discussion of the general measures of the Government, but said he cheerfully agreed to a bill of indemnity for what they had done in the crisis which had arisen. At the same time, he thought that all the circumstances connected with that assumption of power by the Executive should be fully set forth. Sir R. Peel added, "With regard to the bill which constitutes Relief Committees, and which is intended to make a total alteration in the system under which relief is now granted, I am also willing to give my assent at once to that measure. (Hear, hear.) I think the evils of the present system are very great, and that the sooner you apply a remedy the better. I cannot help thinking there is great danger, considering how nearly we are approaching that period when it will be impossible to employ labour upon reproductive works, so far as concerns the harvest of the next year—I think, I say, the sooner we enable the Government to make a material alteration in the present system, and promote labour by applying it to the present cultivation of the soil, the greater is the prospect of a diminution of the present difficulty. (Hear, hear.) I apprehend, there are scarcely two months left when, with reference to the spring corn—although I know that the labour is applied in Ireland partly I fear from the condition of the soil, and partly from the greater moisture of the climate—although it is usual from these causes to apply labour to the cultivation of the soil for the purpose of producing spring crops at a later period of the year than in England, yet we are fast approaching that period when labour so applied, will be applied in vain. (Hear, hear, hear.) I think, therefore, the sooner we make an alteration in the present system, the better will it be for the future condition of Ireland. (Hear, hear, hear.) But I must say, I am rather surprised at the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Labouchere) under-rating the dangers that arise from the application of labour to what are called 'public works.' I beg to remind the right honourable gentleman, that he himself, in August last, speaking of the operations of the late Government, then stated that very great inconvenience arose in Ireland, from diverting labour from its ordinary course. If that were in August last, when not more than 60,000 or 70,000 men were employed, how much greater must the inconvenience be to the cultivation of the soil when there are not less than half a million of persons employed on what are called public works? (Hear, hear, hear.) I am quite ready to give wide discretionary power to the Government for the purpose of altering that system." (Hear.) The Right Hon. Baronet afterwards observed that, however important the present measures might be, there were others to be expected of still greater magnitude. "By far the most important of those measures are two or three of which we are not yet in possession, and of the principles of which, therefore, it is impossible to form a judgment. I will venture to say that that bill which shall enable those who are in possession of encumbered property to sell that property, is of ten times more importance, as bearing on the permanent condition of Ireland, than those measures which we are now discussing. (Cheers.) Then, again, with respect to the cultivation of waste land, I will only so far allude to that measure as to say that I do hope the noble Lord will pause before he undertakes to expend so much public money as that measure must involve." (Hear, hear.) At the same time, I thought the hon. member for High Wycombe (Mr. Osborne) greatly exaggerated the noble Lord's views upon that subject, for I did not understand the noble Lord to make any proposal to reclaim such an amount as 4,600,000 acres of waste land. I entreat the noble Lord to bear in mind the exhortation which, at the close of his eloquent and impressive speech, he gave to the Irish proprietors—to help themselves, and then that they might depend upon external aid. (Cheers.) Now, I advise the noble Lord to carry that principle into effect; that is, I would advise him to try, if possible, to teach the Irish proprietors to act independently of the aid of the Government." (General applause.) After a brief speech from Mr. W. S. O'BRIEN, the Labouring Poor (Ireland) Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed.

The Destitute Persons (Ireland) Bill was also read a second time. The Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday.

The House, at half-past eleven o'clock, adjourned to twelve o'clock on Wednesday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The House of Commons commenced its morning sittings to-day. The proceedings, however, were unimportant, and only lasted about an hour.

On the motion of Mr. STURT, twenty-seven resolutions were adopted with reference to the proceedings to be observed for the future with respect to the progress of railway bills. The Classification Committee was appointed. The Resolutions are similar to those of last Session.

A conversation relative to the form of making the report of the Commission appointed to inquire into the state of Milbank Prison, in which Mr. M. Gore, Mr. B. Escoff, Mr. Roebuck, Mr. T. Duncombe, Sir George Grey, and Mr. Fox Maule took part, occupied the remainder of the sitting.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

CHELSEA PENSIONERS.—On the motion of the Duke of WELLINGTON, the bill for abolishing the poundage on Chelsea pensions was read a first time. The illustrious Duke commended the measure, and thanked the Government for the attention they had bestowed upon the interests of those gallant men who were the objects of this Bill.

ALLEGED SCARCITY OF FOOD.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE presented a petition from Cork, praying for the interference of Government to reduce the price of provisions.

The Duke of RICHMOND said that there was every prospect of food from America and elsewhere, which would remove the apprehensions of a deficiency—apprehensions which he had all along considered exaggerated.

Earl FITZWILLIAM said he had not the slightest doubt but that the supply of wheat, both in England and Ireland, was insufficient for those who were consumers of wheat. This would necessarily be absorbed, and certainly the finer qualities of wheat would be scarce, and, perhaps, there might be a scarcity in the secondary qualities also.

Lord BROUGHAM was anxious to explain that he had never entertained the idea that the destination in England was in any degree equal to that in Ireland. What he meant to say was that the Government could not prevent the famine; and he never desired to assert that the distress suffered by the poor in this country was at all equal to that which was to be met with in Ireland.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE, by command of her Majesty, laid on the table the papers relative to the annexation of Cracow.

The House adjourned at 6 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. Prime, the new member for West Sussex, took the oath and his seat.

NEW WRIT.—Mr. TUFNELL moved for a new writ for Galway, in the room of Sir Valentine Blake, deceased.—Agreed to.

THE WINDOW TAX.—Lord DUNCAN gave notice that, on an early day, he would bring on his motion for a repeal of the Window Tax.

RAILWAYS FOR IRELAND.

Lord G. BENTINCK moved for leave to bring in a bill to stimulate the prompt and profitable employment of the people, by the encouragement of railways in Ireland. The noble Lord said there were now not less than 500,000 able-bodied men employed on public works in Ireland, the benefit of which, when completed, was doubtful. (Hear, hear.) He was fully sensible of the distressed condition of Ireland, but he did not despair; he thought good would arise out of the present evil. He knew that some attributed all the distress which afflicted the country to the introduction of measures of Free-Trade; but he would not go that length. The construction of railways in this country had given employment to hundreds and thousands, who, previous to their introduction, were inmates of workhouses; and he saw no reason why the miseries of Ireland should not be overcome by giving a stimulus to the labours of the people. (Hear, hear.) The noble Lord then went into a detail of statistics relating to the state of Ireland, particularly as regarded the construction of railways in that country, and contended that the slow progress which the construction of railways had made in Ireland clearly proved that the subject had not been sufficiently attended to in that part of the kingdom. The proposition he had to make was, that for every

£100 expended by the public on railways, £200 additional should be advanced by the Government, bearing an interest of 3½ per cent. It might be said there would be no security for such an advance, but he was of a different opinion, as he proposed that the Government should take possession of the line of road until the money advanced was paid off. He thought that would be a sufficient security, particularly after the statement of his hon. friend (Mr. Hudson), who said that the worst line he was ever connected with paid upwards of seven per cent. for the capital expended. The noble Lord then went into a series of elaborate calculations, proving that his anticipations of profit were sound. He proposed that for every £100 expended by the shareholders of a line, the Government should guarantee a loan of £200, holding the line when completed as security for the repayment at the end of a term of years. He enlarged on the benefit the introduction of sixteen millions of capital would confer on Ireland, and the advantages all classes would derive from the impulse it would give to commerce. He showed that the raising such a loan, spread over four years, would not derange the Money Market, and referred to the scores of millions England had sunk without return, in wars, foreign subsidies, Mexican mines, Spanish and Portuguese bonds, and loans to the defaulting states of America. To none of these risks would capital spent in the country be liable. He urged his plan strongly on the attention of the Government, and concluded by expressing full confidence in the natural resources of Ireland, and the character of the people. The Noble Lord spoke for nearly three hours.

Lord J. RUSSELL would not oppose the introduction of the measure, but held out no hope that it would meet with any support from the Government.

In the discussion that followed, Lord George Bentinck's plan was enlisted by many members on both sides of the House, particularly the Irish representatives. The only members who opposed it were the political economists, and speeches against it were made by Mr. Hume, Mr. Roebuck, and Mr. Warburton.

The leaders of the late Ministry gave no opinion on the scheme. The discussion was very interesting, and the feeling as to the measure, on the whole, appeared to be favourable.

Leave was given to bring in the Bill, and the House adjourned at twelve o'clock.

LORD GEORGE BENTINCK'S BILL.—The following is an analysis of the most important clauses of this measure:—Clauses 1 to 16 provide the requisite machinery for enabling the Treasury to raise from time to time the sums required for the purposes of the Act, not exceeding in the whole the sum of £16,000,000, from the produce of the Consolidated Fund, by the issue of Exchequer Bills, or by loans. The clauses are the same as those for a similar purpose in the Drainage Act of last session, and in the Slavery Compensation Act. Clause 17 enacts that it shall be lawful for any railway company in Ireland, whether already incorporated, or to be hereafter incorporated, to apply for a loan under the provisions of the Act. Clause 20 enacts that, in the event of the Report of the Commissioners of Railways being favourable, the Treasury shall advance two pounds for every one pound of share capital which shall be paid up, and properly expended by the company, with a proviso authorising the advance for less amount if the Commissioners of Railways shall report that the security is only sufficient for such less amount. Clause 22 provides that the wages of all labourers and workmen employed upon railways, for which an advance shall be made under this Act, shall be paid weekly in money or banker's notes payable on demand. Clause 26 enacts that the payment of all advances, with interest, shall be secured by an assignment, by way of mortgage, providing for the repayment of the principal money advanced at the end of a period of not less than thirty years; but with a proviso enabling the Treasury to postpone the period of repayment, and enabling the Company to pay off the money at an earlier date if so inclined. The remaining clauses are chiefly occupied in regulating the mode of securing money advanced.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

SIR EDWARD GIBBS.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR EDWARD GIBBS, K.C.B., who, a few days back, completed his term of service as Lieutenant-Governor of Jersey, died, on the 24th ultimo, in that island, aged seventy. This distinguished officer was son of Samuel Gibbs, Esq., of Horsley Park, Essex, by his wife, the daughter of Admiral Sir William Rowley, K.B. He was brother to the late Sir Samuel Gibbs, who fell at New Orleans. Sir Edward Gibbs entered the army as an Ensign, in 1793, and rose, after passing through the different grades, to the rank of Lieutenant-General the 9th November, 1846. Sir Edward was engaged in active service during the whole of the last war. He was at Corunna, and at the storming of Badajoz, where he lost his left eye. For his intrepid conduct at Badajoz, as well as at Ciudad Rodrigo and Vittoria, he received a medal and two clasps. At the time of his decease he was Colonel of the 52nd Foot. Sir Edward's last appearance in his public character was on the occasion of the visit of her Majesty and Prince Albert to Jersey, a few months since.

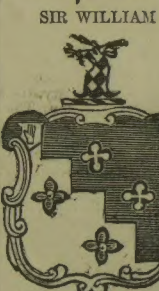
ADMIRAL ELICOTE.

REAR-ADMIRAL Edward Elicote, a gallant and distinguished officer, during the late War, entered the Navy in 1781, and was continually in active service under the most leading Admirals, and, among them, Nelson. While a Lieutenant on board the *Revolutionaire*, Elicote displayed daring valour at the capture of the *Unité*. His intrepidity during the meeting of the fleet, obtained public thanks. In a desperate engagement, while on board the *Perseus*, he was severely wounded. In 1801, he was with Nelson during the attempts on the Boulogne flotilla; and, in 1807, he commanded the *Hebe* at the bombardment of Copenhagen, and was made a Knight of the Sword by the King of Sweden. Admiral Elicote was appointed a Captain in 1812, and a Rear-Admiral among those who recently retired. This valorous seaman died on the 24th ultimo, at Alcombe, near Minehead, Somersetshire, aged 78.



LIEUT.-COL. THE HON. PERCY AUGUSTUS EVANS FREKE.

COL. EVANS FREKE, an officer in the Grenadier Guards, died, unmarried, at Rome, on the 15th ultimo. He was next brother and heir presumptive of the present Lord Carbery, and had received, together with his younger brothers and sister, a grant of the precedence of a Baron's son, in 1845.



SIR WILLIAM CHAYTOR, BART., OF CROFT, COUNTY YORK.

This gentleman, a very extensive land and coal proprietor in the North, died on the 28th ultimo, at Clervaux Castle, Darlington. He was eldest son of the late William Chaytor, Esq., of Croft, M.P., and grandson of Henry Chaytor, Esq., who succeeded to the estates of his uncle, Sir William Chaytor, Bart., the representative of two of the oldest families in England—the Chaytors, of Butterby, county Durham, and the Clervauxs, of Croft, county York. With reference to the latter, the following curious inscription is to be found in the church of Croft:—

Clervaux Richardus jacet hic sub marmore clausus
Crofte quondam dominus hinc miserere Deus
Armiger Henrici Regis et pro corpore sexti
Quem Deus excelsi duxit ad astra poli
Sanguinis Edvardi Quarti, terrique Richardi
Gradibus in ternis alter utrique fuit.
Qui obiit MCCCXC.

Sir William Chaytor, whose death we record, represented Durham in Parliament from 1831 to 1834, and was created a Baronet in the former year. He was born 29th April, 1771, and married, 18th August, 1803, Isabella, younger daughter and co-heir (with her sister Anne, wife of John Clervaux Chaytor, Esq., of Spennithorne Hall) of John Carter, Esq., of Tunstall and Richmond. By this lady he has left four sons and three daughters.

M. LEPEINTRE.

M. LEPEINTRE was a comic actor of considerable reputation in Paris. His extreme stoutness—a very Falstaff in appearance—and his rich jovial humour, rendered his drollery irresistible on the stage. His talents, indeed, were more of a ludicrous character than belonging to first-rate comedy. M. Lepeintre was also a writer, and the author of several successful dramas. He suffered much latterly from ill health, the effects of an accident. His death occurred a few days since.

DEATH OF MR. TOOLE, THE CITY TOASTMASTER.—This celebrated individual we regret to state, died on Sunday last, after a severe but short illness. He was born in the year 1796. By his peculiar and happy expression, and original style, he was the first person who became a toastmaster by profession, and his success during the last seventeen years at the City Festivals, and in various parts of England is well known. He almost invariably officiated at festivals at which the Duke of Cambridge presided, and this by desire of his Royal Highness. Toole had been twenty-two years in the service of the East India Company; and during his illness, he had very benevolently been visited by Mr. Melville, the secretary. Toole was a kind-hearted and generous man; he has left a son and three daughters to deplore his loss, and we fear, with the exception of a small legacy, free from any provision. The son, we understand, will succeed his father in his original pursuit.

EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The *Swiss National Gazette* contains the following details of an atrocious murder in a railroad carriage:—"A person whose name is unknown took his seat at Mannheim in a railroad carriage with a ticket for Carlsruhe. Three other individuals of respectable appearance shortly afterwards placed themselves in the same carriage, strangled the first, rifled his pockets, and quitted the carriage at Heidelberg. The crime was not discovered until the train arrived at Carlsruhe, when the man was found in the corner of the carriage dead and already cold."

According to advices from St. Petersburg, Lord Palmerston is said to have addressed the question to the Russian Cabinet, how far he was to credit the report of the speedy incorporation of Poland to the Russian Empire. The Russian Cabinet is reported to have made a formal reply, that no such project was entertained.

The Boulogne to Amiens Railway is completely finished in the part comprised between Amiens and Abbeville. Notice has been given of this fact to the Government authorities, who are about to verify the state of the line and pass the works.

The King of Denmark, on the pressing solicitation of the Courts of Vienna and Berlin, has accorded permission for the construction of a railway to unite Lubeck to the German lines.

Extract of a private letter from Rome, dated Jan. 18:—"The Holy Father has just given 1000 scudi (about £240) to the fund for the distress in Ireland, and has ordered three sermons to be preached by the first preachers in Rome for the same cause."

A letter from Antwerp, of January 27, says, that many corn-laden ships arrived at Flushing, and destined for Antwerp, have received orders to proceed to the coast of Ireland.

The French Minister of Foreign Affairs is about to establish a Consul for France at the Cape of Good Hope. The residence will be at Cape Town.

A person at Vienna, writing to Nuremberg, states that the accounts received from Galicia are deplorable. The most intense distress prevailed in the rural districts, and the effects had become but so much the more desperate since the proprietors, who have had great cause to find fault with the peasantry, refuse, for the most part, to afford them any assistance.

Letters from Odessa speak of the continuance of purchases in the grain markets on account of Belgium, France, and England, and the result has been increased firmness of prices. For delivery in June a great deal of business had been transacted. The last advices from England are stated to have exerted much influence on the general condition of the market.

An Ordinance has been published at Brussels, signed by King Leopold, authorising the importation, duty free, of flour from any country whatever.

The King of Prussia has forwarded the Prussian Order of Merit to Sir David Brewster, K.H.K.B.

A letter from Stuttgart, dated 25th January, says:—"Yesterday, the Prince Royal and his consort, the Grand Duchess Olga, were placed in the most imminent danger. The horses of the sledge which conveyed their Royal Highnesses ran away, and the driver was thrown from his seat. Happily the Prince had the presence of mind to seize the reins with one hand, and with the other to hold back the Princess, who wanted to jump out of the sledge. In a few moments his Royal Highness obtained the complete mastery over the terrified animals, alighted safely, and returned to his residence with the Princess."

The German papers give news *via* Constantinople, to the effect that the Circassians have obtained some brilliant triumphs over the Russians, and have taken two of their forts. They were preparing to attack Abouhour. Margukh had been stormed by them on the 19th Dec.; the Russians were defeated, and great numbers were destroyed; the Circassians lost 300 men.

It is stated that a "navy" employed upon the Keymer Branch Railway, near Lewes, last week received a letter announcing the death of an uncle, who had left, between him and his brother, a sum of £7800.

A black hare was lately shot in the parish of Denham, Essex. It was full grown, and the fur was the finest glossy black.

An extraordinary and unexpected instance of good fortune has recently occurred to an elderly female, named McCormack, who has for some time resided in Coppice-row, Clerkenwell, where she has contrived to obtain a decent maintenance by vending confectionery. The old lady on Saturday received a letter from a solicitor, announcing to her the death of an aged relative, who had resided near Aberdeen, and also that she had been bequeathed property to the amount of £30,000.

A new Assistant Poor Law Commissioner in Ireland has been appointed, Mr. Charles Sharman Crawford, son of Mr. William S. Crawford, M.P.

A wedding took place at Bakewell, Derbyshire, on Tuesday, between a Miss Rebecca Waterfall and a Mr. Brerley. The fair one being some "threescore years or more," and of very eccentric habits, the wedding occasioned more than usual excitement. As the wedding party proceeded from the church they were warmly received by a shower of clods and old boots, from the juveniles assembled to witness the proceedings, which was returned with equal vigour by the newly-married couple. One of the bystanders, a little boy, received a token of the bride's affection, by a stone that felled him to the ground.

Five vessels arrived in the Thames on Monday from the Irish ports, laden with provisions of different descriptions, the produce of that country, one of which was from Sligo, one from Cork, two from Dublin, and the other from Belfast.

The following are the Committee appointed, to be called the Classification Committee of Railway Bills:—Mr. W. Patten, Lord Courtenay, Sir R. Ferguson, Sir J. Pakington, and Lord Dalmeny.

The Goldsmiths' Company have presented a donation of £200 towards the King's College Hospital Building Fund.

A Dublin Correspondent informs us that the works on the Dundalk and Enniskillen Railway, so far as Castleblayney, are in progress; and to this extent the line from Dundalk will be completed by November next. The Dublin and Howth Railway will be completed by the 1st of April.

The *Courier Francais* says, "We are assured that Lord Palmerston is on the point of raising with Spain a difficulty which was, in 1840, on his part, the object of a serious claim. This difficulty consists in the demand of the freedom of 5000 negroes, who, he pretends, are the subjects of England, and who are detained in slavery in the island of Cuba."

The electric telegraph, for the purpose of connecting the South Western Railway with the chief office of the patentees in the Strand, was completed on Thursday morning.

A letter from Posen, of Jan. 21, says:—"Several persons implicated in the Polish proceedings have lately been released; it was generally believed that the proceedings were drawing to a close, but the day before yesterday one of the most distinguished Polish landowners in this province, Seralin Von Ostrowski, was arrested and conveyed to Berlin, so that all hopes begin to vanish."

According to a statement of the receipts of flour and wheat at New York, and the exports to foreign ports, from January 1 to December 31, inclusive, for the years 1845 and 1846, the increase in the import of flour into New York last year was 585,237 barrels, and of wheat 1,060,428 bushels. The increase in the exports is 723,908 barrels flour, and 1,172,702 bushels wheat. The increase in the exports from New York during 1846, therefore, compared with 1845, amounted to nearly 200 per cent.

It is stated in some of the French papers that Madame Lafarge is about to be liberated. The report has given rise to almost as much excitement as the history of her crime did upon the occasion of her trial.

Late papers from Newfoundland report with much satisfaction the first appearance of seals, which, at a period so early in the year, is regarded as a promising indication of abundance before the fishery shall in reality have commenced.

During the transmission of the Queen's Speech to Sheffield by telegraph, owing to some deficiency of light in the telegraph office at the Chesterfield Station, one of the porters was placed to hold a candle in each hand, to enable the reader better to see the operation of the indicators. Upon the latter the man was ordered to fix his own eyes, to see that the light fell fully on the index: he did so for about an hour, when he suddenly dropped down as stiff as a post; having been, in fact, completely mesmerised by the protracted intensity of his attention.

The petition of the Earl of Listowell against the return of Mr. B. Cabbell for St. Alban's, has been abandoned.

At the close of the year 1846, the population of Warsaw amounted to 165,130 inhabitants; of these 1527 belonged to the Greek Church, 107,962 to the Roman Catholic Religion, 150 to the United Greeks, 44,394 to the Protestant Religion, and 33,149 to the Jewish Religion.

During the week ending the 31st ult., the number of persons passing between England and France, was—At Boulogne, 664; at Calais, 284; total, 948.

An American paper states that there are now in active operation 11,000 miles of railroad in the United States. These railways were laid down at one-twentieth of the cost per mile of the English Railroads; the fares for passengers and parcels are also one-fifth lower than in England.

By accounts from Port-au-Prince, of the 15th of December, we learn that the President Riche has taken off the sequestration which had been laid on the property of the ex-President Boyer. All that has not been sold is to be restored to him, and he is to have an indemnity for what has been sold.

Some potatoes grown near Port Philip, Australia, have been received in Scotland, which are the first that have arrived in Scotland from that distant colony. As the disease so prevalent elsewhere among that useful root had not made its appearance in Australia before the potatoes were shipped, it is to be hoped that they are in good condition, and fit for planting, and if propagated that they will succeed in introducing here a new and uncontaminated seed, so that we may be indebted to New South Wales for other imports than wool and tallow.

FOREIGN CORN PORTS.



ROSTOCK.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.

We resume our Illustrations of these centres of commerce, to which public attention is specially directed at the present season of scarcity. In the two instances we have selected, the prospects are by no means promising; for, according to the latest accounts, "At Rostock and Stettin holders had raised their pretensions, and few were willing to engage to ship wheat in spring below 62s. to 63s. per quarter."

ROSTOCK

is the principal trading port of the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, essentially an agricultural, wool-growing, grazing, and breeding country. The town stands on an eminence, in a flat and fertile districts, on the bank of the river Warnow, about nine miles above where it falls into the Baltic. It has a good harbour and commodious quays; and the output is at Wartemunde, at the mouth of the Warnow. It has about 150 ships, which sail under its own flag; and the number of ships which, in ordinary times, arrive every year, is about 600, the foreign vessels being mostly Russian, Swedish, and Danish, and very few French and English. It is only, in fact, when our ports are open to the importation of foreign corn, that British ships are met with, in considerable numbers, in the ports of Mecklenburg. The exports are chiefly corn and wool. The imports are colonial produce, wine, and bay-salt. There are several manufactures of canvass, linen, baize, ships' anchors, soap, and vinegar, and some breweries, distilleries, and sugar refineries. The population is about 19,000.

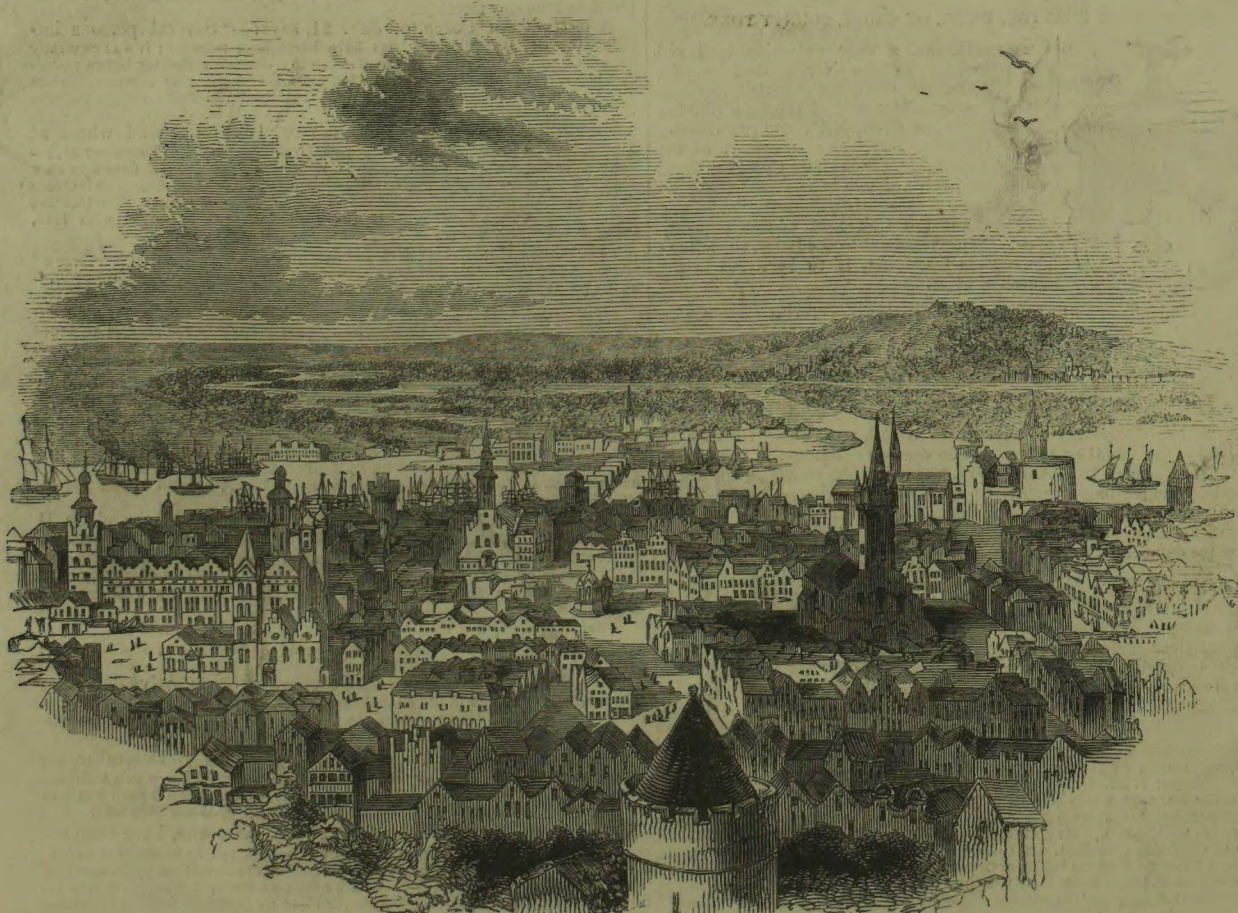
Rostock consists of the old, the middle, and the new town, besides the suburbs, and it is surrounded with ancient fortifications. It is mostly built in the old fashion of the free German cities, with the gable-ends towards the street; but it has many large and elegant modern houses. The principal public buildings are the Grand Ducal Palace, the University, and the churches of St. Mary and St. Peter, the latter containing the tomb of Grotius. St. Peter's has a fine steeple, 420 feet high. Rostock joined the Hanseatic League in 1630, and was, for a long time, the next city in rank in the Baltic, after Lubeck. Great privileges were granted it by the Dukes of Mecklenburg, many of which it still retains; and, though its commerce is not so considerable as in the time of the Hanse, it is still a place of importance.

The navigation of the Baltic has, of late, been extraordinarily great. According to a letter from Copenhagen, of the 19th ult., the number of vessels which passed the Sound in 1846 was the largest ever remembered. They amounted to 18,765, exceeding by 2815 the number in 1845.

STETTIN.

This finely-built town is the capital of the province of Pomerania, and is one of the most flourishing commercial towns, and one of the strongest fortresses, in the Prussian monarchy. It is situated on an eminence on the left bank of the Oder, about 36 miles from its mouth. The town has a lofty citadel and forts, five principal gates, and eight posterns; and several Government offices. It has also a palace, formerly the residence of the last Dukes of Pomerania; a fine library, barracks, hospital, theatre, &c.; and several charitable institutions. The manufactures are woollens, linen, cotton, leather, hats, sail-cloth, &c. Boats and ships are built here, and the anchors for all the ships of the Prussian States are manufactured here. The trade is very considerable, it being the chief port for the manufactures and produce of Silesia, and for the importation of all kinds of foreign goods. The principal exports are corn, especially wheat; spirits, rape-seed, spelter, timber, &c. The population is upwards of 30,000.

"Stettin," says Mr. Macculloch, "is the seat of an extensive and growing commerce; and is now, indeed, the principal port of importation in Prussia. She owes this distinction mainly to her situation. The Oder, which flows through the centre of the Prussian dominions, is navigable as far as Ratibor, near the extreme southern boundary of Prussian Silesia; and is united by means of canals with the Vistula, the Elbe, the Spree, &c. Stettin is, consequently, the principal emporium of some very extensive and flourishing countries; and not only the port of Frankfort-on-the-Oder, Breslaw, &c., but also of Berlin. (From the latter to Stettin, there is a railway.) Stettin is a free port; that is, a port into and from which all sorts of goods may be imported and re-exported free of duty. If goods brought through the Sound, be imported at Stettin, and entered for home consumption in the Prussian States, they are charged with 2½ per cent. less duty than if they had been imported through any other channel. This is intended to reimburse the merchant for the Sound duties, and to encourage importation by this direct route, in preference to that carried on through Hamburg and Embden."



STETTIN.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.

THE FIRST PROTESTANT CHURCH BUILT IN MAURITIUS.

(From a Correspondent.)

THE foundation-stone of the above Church was laid on Monday, the 22nd December, 1845, being the day after St. Thomas's Day, by Lady Gomm, wife of his Excellency Sir William Maynard Gomm, Governor of Mauritius, amidst a vast concourse both of the white and coloured population of the island. The day was very propitious, and the ceremony was participated in by all with a deep and becoming interest. The Committee charged with the building of the Church had prepared a large tent and arranged chairs and forms for the visitors and children of the schools. The service commenced by the whole assembly singing the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 6th, and 7th verses of the 122nd Psalm. The Rev. L. Banks, the officiating minister in the district, then read select portions of the Sacred Scriptures, part of 6 c., 2 Chron., 84th and 87th Psalms, and the Epistle and Gospel for St. Thomas's Day; after which prayers, principally selected from the Book of Common Prayer, were read by the Rev. J. S. Peling, Chaplain to the Forces. Lady Gomm then proceeded to lay the stone in the usual manner. After which, the assembly sang the 100th Psalm, the children of Grand River School, of Mrs. Brownrigg's School on the Beau Bassin estate, and those of the Plaines Wilhems Schools, leading. The Rev. Langrishe Banks then delivered an address, in which he dwelt upon the interesting fact that the foundation-stone, which was then laid, was the first stone of the first place of worship in connexion with the Anglican Church ever undertaken, as such, in the island, the Church of Port Louis having been originally built for another purpose; that it was the first stone of any house devoted to the service of God in the district of Plaines Wilhems; and that the language of the poet was hitherto literally true of the district:—

The sound of the church-going bell
Those valleys and hills never heard;
Never sighed at the sound of a knell,
Nor milled when a Sabbath appeared.

But he expressed a hope that not only for the quarter in which they were, but for the island, the act wherein they had been engaged was only the forerunner of several similar, that the day would come when the sound of St. Thomas's bell would be answered from one on the heights of Moka,* whose echoes, he trusted, would not die away before they heard a responsive voice from the village of Mahebourg.

The Rev. gentleman, in concluding, expressed his conviction that it was by the extension of the Church of England in the Colonies that the strongest bond would be formed between the Father-land and the sons of Britain now settled in every part of the world. And, addressing himself to his Excellency and Lady Gomm, said, that on their retirement from public life, amongst the bright spots which might mark their path, one of the brightest would be the spot that marked the present day—the spot that marked their laying the foundation-stone of St. Thomas's Church, Plaines Wilhems.

His Excellency the Governor replied, in a short and touching address. "Glory, Honour, Praise and Power, &c.," was most heartily sung by all present, and the "Blessing" was pronounced by the officiating Minister.

The Church (which was completed in October last) consists of a chancel, internally 16 feet square; a nave, 42 feet by 23; a north porch, 8 feet square; and a vestry on the south side, corresponding exactly with the porch. In England, the area would be considered sufficient to seat 200; but in the climate of Mauritius it is calculated that it will conveniently hold but 150. The roof is open, and the style, the earlier variety of "the Decorated." It has been built partly by subscription, and partly by a grant from the Local Government. The expense, without pews or enclosing the burial-ground, has amounted to about £2300; £1000 of which has been granted by the Government. This sum appears large; but labour is most expensive in the Colony, and the cartage to the site of the Church, which is on the high ground in the interior, has added considerably to the outlay.



ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, PLAINES WILHEMS, MAURITIUS.

The building, pulpit, reading-desk, and chancel having been completed, and the permission of the Governor, who with Lady Gomm, attended on the occasion, having been granted, divine service was performed in it for the first time on Sunday, the 18th of October, being St. Luke's Day. The consecration of it, upon the appointment or visit of a Bishop, is anxiously looked forward to. Upon the occasion of the first service, the Church was crowded; both at the English service in the morning, and the French service in the afternoon; for, as most of the French population understand only French, the English Liturgy, translated into that language, is used every Sunday afternoon, and also a sermon preached in that tongue. The Church has been provided with a very handsome stone font, the gift of Lady Gomm.

A newspaper of the Colony states:—"This elegant and substantial building was opened for Divine Worship, in the Communion of the Church of England, on Sunday the 18th inst. A considerable concourse of persons attended on the occasion. We believe one sentiment of satisfaction was felt at the union of strength, beauty, and simplicity in the building, for which we understand the country is indebted to the Rev. Mr. Banks, the Acting Minister, and Mr. Bayley, the builder. The Gothic windows and mouldings give a handsome appearance to the building, but there is no superfluous ornament; all the windows open, to admit a free circulation of air; for the sound of the voice, the interior is perfect; all the wood work is of teak, the stonework substantial, the roof of slate, and interiorly decorated in the Gothic style."

Our Correspondent adds:—"Should you be pleased with the design, you will be gratified with learning that I received the leading idea from a sketch I saw in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

DEATH OF THE REV. J. T. HEWLETT.—We have to record the death of this gentleman, better known to the literary world as the author of "Peter Priggins" (the name he wrote under), "College Life," "The Parish Clerk," "Parsons and Widows," "Dunster Castle," &c. He for many years was a contributor to *Colburn's Magazine*. In private life he was generally respected and admired for his jokes and pleasantries. One of his associates was the late Thomas Hood, and he was his constant attendant when in town until within a few days of his decease. The most painful part of this record is to come—he has, unfortunately, left a family of nine orphan children totally unprovided for.

ELECTION FOR CHESTER.—On Saturday, Hugh Lupus, Earl Grosvenor, was elected for the city of Chester, without opposition, in the room of his uncle, Lord Robert Grosvenor, who resigned his seat, in order to stand for Middlesex. Earl Grosvenor was proposed by the Mayor of Chester, Dr. Phillips Jones, and the nomination was seconded by Thomas Dixon, Esq.

THE ADVENTURES AND PERILS OF THE CITY PLATE.—It is known that the Corporation of London possesses a quantity of valuable plate, the accumulated wealth of ages, and which rivals that of Royalty in costliness and splendour. A singular discovery has lately been made with respect to that treasure. A worthy Alderman, a namesake of the founder of a northern empire, and scarcely inferior in genius and sagacity to that renowned autocrat, with his customary sociability and love of good cheer, obligingly accepted an invitation to grace with his presence a Hebrew festival in the neighbourhood of St. Mary-Axe. Having long been a close observer of the peculiarities of the various classes with which he has associated, the sagacious knight was fully aware of the passion for display which distinguishes the "chosen people;" he was not, therefore, surprised at the gaiety and liberality with which his comparatively humble Hebrew friends had welcomed the honour of his company. When, however, the supper room was opened, and the knight with other guests entered, they were positively startled at the profusion and magnificence of the plate. On a little closer inspection, what was the worthy Alderman's astonishment to recognise his old acquaintances the Mansion House. Of course the distinguished visitor was deeply moved at this discovery, and lost no time in communicating information of it to head-quarters. Upon inquiry as to how the treasure could have left its resting-place, the mystery was solved by the Davus of the Mansion House, who had the custody of it, admitting that he had been in the habit for some time previous of letting it out, when solicited so to do; and defended the practice by stating, that as his late master had done so, he saw no harm in earning an honest penny by following his example.

* The foundation stone of the Church here alluded to has been since laid by the Governor on the 1st October, 1846.

FEBRUARY.

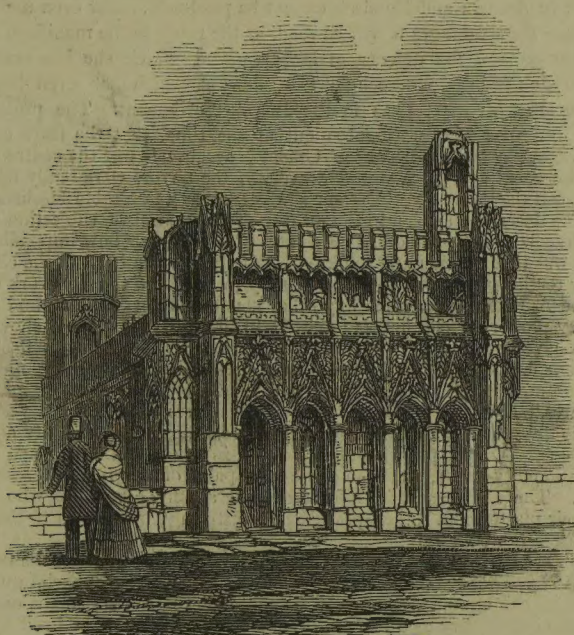
Chill February! from beneath thy hood
The crystal tears of winter are descending;
Thy breast, still, to the songsters of the wood,
Ope warmly. Soon the parent bird is wending
Forth to the fields, to seek his nestling's food;
Or, haply, on the rainbow's rim is blending
His hymn of hope with the wind's concert rude.
Brave Month! albeit the shortest of the year,
Not the less joyful, Febru'ry, art thou;
For Love and Hope shall welcome thy career,
And merry youthhood crown thy "frosty pow."
Hail to thee, February! within whose breast
The germinating seeds of Plenty are caressed.

See! on the mossy bank, where still the snow
Is ling'ring, the sweet violet ope her eyes,
Timidly wooing the sun's genial glow,
To smile upon her through the frowning skies;
While, in the streamlet gurgling from the hills,
The speckled trout in glancing joy is seen.
The voice of nature every creature thrills,
On this, thy day, St. Valentine, I ween.
Joy to the patron saint of love and glee,
Whose "hearted throne" is hail'd by maid and swain,
And triple joy, bluff February, to thee,
Whose fostering love can thaw cold winter's chain.
God speed thee, friendly month! Act well thy part—
Propitious to the sickle, sail, and mart.—L.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

CHAPEL ON THE BRIDGE, WAKEFIELD.

The most interesting feature of the ancient town of Wakefield, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, is the "right goodly chapel of our Ladye, on the east side," as Leland states, of the fair bridge of stone over the Calder. It stands upon the site of a chapel built by Edward III. (1327-77), which appears to have been taken down and re-built by Edward IV. (1461-83), in memory of his father. The architecture is in the elaborate Gothic style, which prevailed in the 15th century; but, as the endowments were withdrawn at the Dissolution, it fell into decay, and was for sometime used as a corn factor's counting-house, though fortunately steps have been taken for its restoration. The building projects over, and partly rests on the starlings of the bridge; the latter has eight arches, and was built in the reign of Edward III.



CHAPEL ON THE BRIDGE, WAKEFIELD.

We were informed by a Correspondent, in September last, that sufficient money had been raised to re-build (? restore) the beautiful edifice; and that a design had been furnished for the completion of the interior for divine service. We trust that the good work has not been retarded. The outer wall is shown in our Engraving to be a picturesque ruin.

THE THEATRES.

FRENCH PLAYS.

M. Lemaître continues his attractive representations at the St. James's Theatre, and since we last wrote has been delighting the crowded audiences with his imitable *Robert Macaire*, in "L'Auberge des Adrets." In noticing this drama last year, we alluded to the circumstances under which it attained its popularity. It was intended to be a play of terribly serious interest, but Lemaître seeing that it would not succeed if so played, changed the character of it entirely: and since its first performance made the part of *Robert Macaire* entirely his own. Being his own, he has a right to do what he likes with it: and accordingly he "gags" it—to use a theatrical term—in a most entertaining manner: his last whim being to introduce an imitation of the Ethiopian Serenaders, in which his superb burlesque upon their banjo playing, elicits shouts of laughter from the audience. All through the piece we have the realization of Daumier's admirable "Robert Macaire" series of sketches before our eyes, the great Lemaître being the type of them. As the termination of his engagement is drawing nigh, we would recommend our play-loving readers not to lose the chance of seeing the most extraordinary actor in the world. Even, if they cannot follow his language very readily, they can shake their sides at his grand extravagant waltz, and in fact at all his pantomime and drollery of action. In the very scroop of his snuff-box there is humour. Our illustration is taken from that scene in "L'Auberge des Adrets," where the officers are examining his passport. The *Garde Municipale* says, "Ou allez vous?" to which *Macaire* replies, "Allons donc!" (à London.)

HAYMARKET.

On Thursday evening a new comedy, called "A School for Scheming," written, as we announced, by Mr. Bourcierault, was represented for the first time at this theatre.

Before proceeding to detail the plot of the comedy, we may venture to point out a somewhat remarkable departure which the author has made from his usual style of construction. In his former works he has been contented to enlist the attention of the audience by the amusing development of character, an extreme buoyancy of animal spirits, a scintillation of epigram forming a series of loosely connected scenes, revealing no further object than temporary amusement. In spite of the growlings of certain crabbed critics, who wage war to the nibs against this school of purposeless comedy, we boldly protest against their anathemas, and call to witness the works of Congreve, Farquhar, and even Shakspeare; and beg to know what is the deep moral object which dictated "Love for Love," or, "The Beaux Stratagem," or "The Midsummer Night's Dream," or, "The Merry Wives of Windsor." But while we declare that a great comedy may exist, from which no great moral deduction can be drawn, we do not insist on the absence of it; and we are quite content to acknowledge its presence with applause, provided it does not interfere with, or occupy the place of, that great object, amusement.

"The School for Scheming" is a comedy written with a purpose which is apparent from the beginning to the end—which is never uttered, yet is perpetually before the eyes. The author has not viewed the word scheming in its commercial sense only; but, taking a broader view, considers all those who attempt to achieve any position—moral, social, or pecuniary—to which they may not be entitled, as schemers. To elucidate this principle, he has introduced the Honourable *Claude Plantagenet* (Mr. W. Farren), a broken-down rake, scheming to retrieve his fortunes by a rich marriage; *Helen Plantagenet*, his daughter (Miss Fortescue), a girl who schemes for a noble and wealthy husband, running into debt for her fashionable equipment with West-End tradesmen, who fix their faith on her matrimonial success for payment; *The Mac Dummum* (Mr. Buckstone), a capitalist without a farthing, represents the commercial schemer; *Craven Acton* (Mr. Howe), the parvenu, the son of the wealthy manufacturer, the tuft-hunter, the victim of pennyless lords, is the schemer for social position. *Mrs. Fox Ffrench* (Mrs. Glover), is the empty, vain, wily hypocrite—the parasite plant of society—a *résumé* of all the rest. The plot which is worked out by these characters is simple enough. *Claude*, trusting to retrieve his fortunes by a marriage with *Mrs. Fox Ffrench*, thinks to enhance his value in her eyes by a great match for *Helen*, in whom he finds a willing pupil. This girl, who is kept,

HEADS OF THE MONTHS.—DRAWN BY KENNY MEADOWS.



throughout the play, on a balance between her love for *Craven Acton* (who supposes himself to be ruined) and her ambition to become a Countess, forms a character as difficult to describe as, we do not doubt, the author found to draw. Chance leads some of *Claude's* creditors to exhibit to *Helen* the miseries of debt; and the insults to her by them teach her a bitter lesson, which decides her choice. She jilts her lover, and accepts the proposals of the *Earl of Fipley* (Mr. Selby); who, in his turn, jilts her. *Claude* marries *Mrs. Ffrench*, for her supposed fortune, and she weds him, on the strength of his misrepresentation. They discover their mutual dupery, and, driven to extremity, try to bring one of *Helen's* many admirers to propose; but find that they all drop off, one by one, leaving the schemers in the very trap they had laid for others. Even *Craven*, having overheard a scene in which *Helen* reveals her heartlessness, casts her off, reclaims his pledge, and leaves her. So ends the fourth act. During this time, the *Mac Dummum*, who in the first act was a poor wretch, whose home is a hall-door and a brass-plate, makes a fortune in railways. His landlady, with whom he was in love, he now treats with contempt, offering her a set of worthless shares as payment of "a quarter's hall-door."

In the fifth act we find our *dramatis personæ* at Boulogne-sur-mer. Two years have elapsed: adversity has done its wholesome work; *Claude* and *Mrs. Fox* have turned out jolly, homely, good-tempered people; the *Mac Dummum*, having lost all his fortune as rapidly as he acquired it, is reduced to be a *commissionnaire*; whilst *Helen* has been so cured of her heartlessness, that she has applied a certain legacy of £30,000 to pay her father's debts. The result then follows naturally. *Craven*, returning from a tour in the East, discovers that *Helen* loves him still, and is worthy of his affection. The *Mac Dummum* meets his former landlady in fine clothes, and discovers that the worthless shares he had

given her had turned out the only good ones he had possessed; and that she has a little fortune, which she generously offers to share with him. And now to speak of the most important character of the comedy, who constitutes in himself the entire background of the drama. This is *Job Sykes* (Webster), the father of *Craven*. This character is a strange mixture of innate delicacy with intense vulgarity, and bears the stamina of the whole work. *Job Sykes*, a foundling—subsequently the stable-boy of *Claude*—by labour become a manufacturer, marries a lady of rank, who, soon disgusted with his vulgarity, leaves him, and educates her child apart from him, even causing *Craven* to change his name from *Sykes* to *Acton*. The father, still loving his son, follows him through life, averting danger from him, and eventually assumes the name and character of an usurer, to ruin his own son.

We regret that we cannot speak so favourably of this comedy as we have, from time to time, done of the author's previous productions; indeed, in the fourth act, the want of action, and somewhat wearying sentimental dialogues, called forth very unmistakable symptoms of disapprobation from the audience. From this part to the end, it encountered tolerably strong opposition every now and then; but the curtain, at last, fell amidst loud applause, not, however, unqualified. It played four hours—a dangerous length when there was no rapidity of situation to amuse or interest the audience, and fix their attention.

The acting was very good; indeed, the measure of the Haymarket company had been taken closely by the author, and such characters were allotted to the principal performers as they could scarcely fail to render effective. But of all, we must give the chief praise to Mr. Selby, whose representation of the foppish *Lord Fipley* was perfect. Nothing could be more ludicrous than his make-up; and without running into absolute caricature, he invested the character with a



M. LEMAÎTRE, AS ROBERT MACAIRE, AT THE ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

WINDSOR, THURSDAY EVENING.—(From our own Correspondent.)—His Royal Highness Prince Albert, after promenadeing this morning with her Majesty, in the private grounds in the Home Park, left the Castle for Dorney, to hunt with his pack of harriers, accompanied by Count Mensdorff, and attended by several of the Royal suite. Her Majesty held a Privy Council at the Castle this afternoon. The Council was attended by Prince Albert, and nearly the whole of the Cabinet Ministers, who arrived at Slough by a special train from Paddington, and proceeded to Windsor in three carriages and four from Mr. Dotesio's Royal Hotel. The Ministers, after partaking of a *déjeuner* at the Castle, returned to town at half-past four o'clock. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Fanny Howard and the Baroness de Speth, had the honour of joining the Royal dinner party at the Castle this evening. The band of the First Life Guards and her Majesty's private band were in attendance.

THE SPEAKER'S DINNER.—The Speaker of the House of Commons had his first Parliamentary dinner this session, on Saturday last, at his mansion in Eaton-square.

CELEBRATION OF HER MAJESTY'S WEDDING DAY AT WINDSOR.—The seventh anniversary of her Majesty's union with his Royal Highness Prince Albert will be celebrated at Windsor, on Wednesday next, by a public dinner at the New Inn. In the evening there will be a ball at the Town Hall, under the stewardship of J. T. Bedford, Esq. (the Mayor), Colonel Reid and Ralph Neville, Esq. (the two members for the borough), the Hon. Henry Ashley, M.P., Captain Bulkeley (1st Life Guards), and eighteen members of the Town Council, and the principal inhabitants of the town.

PRESENT FROM THE KING OF PRUSSIA TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.—His Majesty the King of Prussia has had manufactured a shield destined as a present to his godson, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. This superb present is now exhibited to the public in one of the Royal Museums at Berlin, previous to its being forwarded to England. The shield is of silver, and covered with bas-reliefs from models by Fischer. In the centre stands prominent the Saviour's head in gold, resting on a cross, around which are four female figures, representing Faith, Charity, Hope, and Justice. The other part is divided into compartments inlaid with precious stones, the compartments containing subjects from the Old and New Testament. This magnificent piece of workmanship bears the following inscription:—"Fredericus Guillelmus Rex Borussiae Alberto Eduardo Principi Wallie, in memoriam diei Bapt. XXV. M. Jan., A. MDCCCLXII."

ILLNESS OF THE BARONESS DE BRUNOW.—We regret to hear that the Baroness Brunow is seriously indisposed. The Duchess of Gloucester and several of the nobility have sent to make inquiries after her Excellency.

CABINET DINNER.—The Marquis of Lansdowne (Lord President of the Council) gave a grand dinner on Wednesday evening at Lansdowne House to all the Cabinet Ministers (with the exception of Lord John Russell); and also to the great officers of State of the Queen's household, and the clerks of the Privy Council. During the evening the roll of Sheriffs for the present year was settled by the Noble Marquis, and the Lords of the Privy Council present, preparatory to its being arranged by her Majesty in Council.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

MEETING AT EXETER HALL UPON THE SUBJECT OF THE DISTRESS.—On Thursday, a public meeting was held at Exeter Hall, for the purpose of hearing the statements of gentlemen from Ireland and Scotland conversant with the extent of the prevailing distress, and the means taken to relieve it, with the view of giving the English public proper information on the subject, and exciting their sympathy and support. Samuel Gurney, Esq., was in the chair. Various resolutions in furtherance of the object of the meeting were then proposed by members of the Irish deputation, seconded by members of the Scottish deputation, and supported by English friends. From the statements made, it would appear that the estimated loss of last year's potato crop in Ireland was from 12 to 16 or 20 millions sterling, and that it would require ten vessels, of 500 tons burthen each, to come into the ports of Ireland for every day during the next twelve months, with Indian corn, to meet the extremity in which Ireland was placed, making an aggregate of 1,325,000 tons. The speakers gave a most lamentable and touching picture of the extent and consequences of the prevailing famine, and referred to a number of cases in support of their statements.

WESTMINSTER ELECTION.—Mr. George Thompson has declined to contest the vacancy in Westminster, about to be created by the retirement of Mr. Leader, in favour of Mr. Lushington. Mr. Charles Lushington will, therefore, receive the united support of all the Liberal section of the constituency.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—A Correspondent has favoured us with the following substance of the reply to his application to be admitted to the Reading-Room of the British Museum:—"The regulations of the British Museum Reading-Room do not allow Sir Henry Ellis (to whom all admissions are deputed) to take the recommendations of parties who are unknown to him, or not in ostensible official stations. The recommendations of Peers of the Realm, Members of Parliament, Judges, Queen's Counsel, Masters in Chancery, or any of the great Law Officers of the Crown; any one of the forty-eight Trustees of the British Museum (the names of whom will be found in the "Royal Calendar," page 336), Aldermen of London, Rectors of Parishes in London, Principals, or Heads of Colleges, Eminent Physicians, and Royal Academicians; or of any gentleman in superior post to an ordinary clerk in any one of the Public Offices (signing his official station with his name), are considered satisfactory, though the parties may be strangers to him, station being deemed a sufficient guarantee."—(J. W. B. is thanked.)

FALL IN THE PRICE OF BREAD.—In consequence of the sudden fall of the price of flour and wheat at market, and the supplies of every description of corn, the bakers at the West-end reduced the 4lb. best bread to 9d. and 10d., and the second rate 8d. and 9d. in the Blackfriars-road. At Whitechapel, and some other districts, good bread can be obtained at 8d. the 4lb. loaf.

DESTITUTION IN ST. LUKE'S, CHELSEA.—This parish contains about 45,000 inhabitants, of whom one in every fourteen is now actually receiving parochial relief. The returns for the week ending Jan. 30, were as follow:—Inmates of the workhouse, 397; children at the establishment at Tooting, 126; recipients of outdoor relief, 2694 (being an increase in this class since last week of 668); the total amount to 3217, of whom about one-third are Irish. There have been from 150 to 220 new applications daily, and they seem likely to be still more numerous. The number of paupers at the corresponding period last year was but 1834, showing the enormous increase of 1833.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

MURDER AND OUTRAGE AT DERBY.

On Tuesday evening, at five o'clock, a horrible murder was committed in Derby by a man named Cross, who, after committing the crime, was in the act of escaping from his house when he was captured by the police, and taken into custody. Cross is a gardener, living in St. Peter's-street, and the objects of his cruelty were his wife and Mrs. Osborne, the wife of a baker, residing next door to him. Cross and his wife, it seems, were in their house alone, and one of his daughters coming home, and not seeing her mother about, attempted to go up stairs, when she was prevented by the father, and an altercation took place. The daughter instantly went to her next door neighbour (Mrs. Osborne), and asked her to go in, and prevail upon her father to permit her to see her mother. Mrs. Osborne, on going to the house, was savagely attacked by Cross, who stabbed her in the neck and face, and would have murdered her had not the daughter seized and pinioned his arms. An alarm was given, and Mrs. Osborne, while bleeding in the most profuse manner, was conveyed into her house, and medical assistance was obtained.

On searching Cross's house, his wife was found with her throat cut. The poor creature lay upon a bed in the chamber on the first floor upstairs, and appeared to have sunk down upon it, as her feet nearly touched the floor. Her right hand was cut as if she had grasped the edge of a knife, and upon her wrist there was a severe wound. One underneath her chin must have caused instant death. The floor had an immense quantity of blood upon it, as though some one had passed from the window, a distance of a yard and a half, to the bed, and the carpets were saturated with blood. By the side of the teaboard lay two knives, one a clasp-knife, covered with blood, the one no doubt which Cross had used against Mrs. Osborne. The wretched man appears to have gone into a kitchen and washed his hands, one of which is seriously wounded. Mrs. Osborne was sufficiently sensible to depose to the circumstance before the Mayor, Mr. W. Eaton, but she lies without hope of recovery. The Coroner's jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against Cross.

THE EXTENSIVE EMBEZZLEMENT AT MANCHESTER.—Thomas Smith, collector to Mr. Alderman Shuttleworth, charged with embezzling money paid into his hands to the account of Messrs. Strutt, of Derby, was brought up at the Borough Court, Manchester, on Wednesday, for further examination. It was then proved that, on the 2nd Feb., 1846, Messrs. De Jersey, merchants, paid him a cheque for £150 12s.; that, on the 22nd May, Messrs. Gumpell and Co. paid him a cheque for £51 6s.; that, on the 13th June, Messrs. Abraham Troos and Sons, merchants, paid him £124 16s.; and that, on the 30th October, Mr. Zolus, merchant, paid him £27 on account of Messrs. Strutt; and that he had accounted for none of these sums. At the conclusion of these proceedings, he was committed for trial. His attorney asked if bail would be accepted? Mr. Maule intimated that £500 would be accepted; but no bail was forthcoming, and the prisoner was removed in custody.

THE LATE FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—The adjourned inquest on the bodies of H. Bishop and H. Halt, who were killed on the Great Western Railway, under the circumstances stated in our paper last week, was resumed on Monday morning, at Southall, before Mr. Wakley, and his deputy, Mr. Mills. No new fact of consequence was stated in evidence, and the Jury returned a verdict that "The deceased accidentally came by their death;" accompanied by a recommendation that the fires should in future be secured in the manner recommended by the engineers who had been examined.

MILITARY FLOGGING.—Last Saturday morning at half-past eight o'clock, the whole of the troops in Woolwich garrison were mustered in the riding school, to see the sentence of a district court-martial on Gunner and Driver J. Beaty, of Captain Grant's company (10th batt.), carried into effect. The prisoner was convicted some time since by a district court-martial of the crime of desertion and of stealing half a sovereign belonging to Corporal Frazer, which the latter had entrusted him with to get changed. He was then sentenced to six months imprisonment and to be branded with the letter D. This sentence was carried into effect, and the prisoner was sent to the military prison, at Fort Clarence, Chatham. Whilst in confinement he attempted to burn his eyes with quick-lime, with the view of inducing a deprivation of sight for the purpose of being discharged. Being detected, he was sent up to Woolwich to be tried for this offence, technically called "tampering," and the district court-martial sentenced him to receive fifty lashes. The unfortunate man received the fifty lashes at the hands of two drummers. The prisoner, though evidently of a weak frame of body, bore the infliction with firmness, and at its conclusion refused to allow any of his comrades to assist in putting on his clothes. On returning into the open air he became faint, and was supported by three men up the steps of the Royal Ordnance Hospital.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE MANCHESTER AND SHEFFIELD RAILWAY.—A fatal accident occurred on the Manchester and Sheffield Railway, on Monday, near the Glossop Junction, on the confines of Derbyshire. It appears that two engines had gone up one of the lines for the purpose of clearing it of snow, when an empty passenger train following them ran into them. The engine driver of the passenger train, James Robinson, attempted to save himself by leaping from his engine, but fell across the rail, and the tender and carriages of his own train went over his body, and killed him on the spot. The collision was so serious, that several of the carriages were crushed, and two of the engines were much shattered. It is said that an attempt was made to signal the driver of the passenger train, as he passed one of the stations, but, owing to the weather, the machinery was out of order.

POSTSCRIPT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

LORD BENTINCK'S BILL.—Lord Brougham having moved for some returns relating to Irish Railways, a conversation arose respecting Lord George Bentinck's Bill. Lord Stanley, the Duke of Richmond, and Earl Fitzwilliam eulogised the measure. The latter noble Earl expressed regret that the measure was not in the hands of her Majesty's Government, and trusted there would be no undue interference with the prerogative of the Crown, with respect to its passing.

EDUCATION.—The Marquis of Lansdowne laid upon the table the Minutes of Education agreed upon by her Majesty's Privy Council; and, in doing so, said it was not his intention to ask the House to come to any conclusion upon any particular plan. The noble Marquis, however, mentioned the suggestions which the Privy Council had recommended upon the subject of Education. The Government did not intend to propose any large and comprehensive national system of Education, but would confine itself to offering suggestions as to what ought to be done in the distribution of the sum which had been voted last year.—Lord Brougham and several other noble Lords made some comments upon the statement of the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

NEW MEMBERS.—Lord R. Grosvenor took the oath and his seat for the county of Middlesex, and Earl Grosvenor for the city of Chester.

MEDALS TO THE OFFICERS OF THE PENINSULAR ARMY.—Sir A. L. HAY put a question as to the steps taken to carry into effect her Majesty's gracious intention of granting medals to the officers of the Peninsular Army. Mr. F. MAULE said, the Government were taking active steps to carry her Majesty's most gracious intentions into effect; and he had no doubt in a short time it would be accomplished.

DESTITUTE PERSONS (IRELAND) ADVANCES BILL.

On the motion that the House should go into Committee on this Bill, Mr. HOLT adverted, at some length, to the distressed state of Ireland. Some other hon. members having spoken, the House went into Committee on the bill.

A desultory discussion arose in Committee.

This and the other recently introduced Government measures occupied the remainder of the evening. The House sat till a late hour.

WINDSOR, Friday Evening.—The Court will take its departure from the Castle on Tuesday next, for Buckingham Palace.

ARISTOCRATIC MARRIAGE.—The marriage of Lady Eleanor Paget with Mr. Sandford Graham, was on Thursday morning solemnised at St. George's, Hanover-square. A very fashionable party were present.

DEATH OF LADY CHRISTIAN DOUGLAS.—Lady Christian Douglas, sister of the Marquis of Queensberry, died on the 27th ult., at her residence in Edinburgh, in the seventy-third year of her age.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE.

Some of the Paris papers assert that the outrages and disorders, of which the scarcity has been the pretext in several parts of the country, have been instigated and perpetrated by a political party calling themselves Materialists or Communists. The *Gazette des Tribunaux* of Wednesday, says:—

"For some days past, a vague rumour has been afloat of arrests having taken place which were suggested by political considerations. Several names were mentioned which had been already heard during former trials of the Republican party. From the information we have procured, it appears that fifteen persons belonging to that faction of the Republican party whose understanding has been perverted by Communist writings, have been arrested on serious charges. These individuals formed part of a 'Society of Materialists.' Their object was to carry into effect the principles avowed in their writings, in which it is proclaimed that all property is 'the fruit of robbery!' Several of the parties arrested are accused of theft, and even of more heinous crimes. One of them, judging his position to be desperate, blew out his brains at the Prefecture of Police with a pistol which he had concealed."

DEATH OF A PRINCESS.—The reigning Princess of Hohenzollern-Zigmaringen, Antoinette, niece of Murat, died at Sigmaringen a few days ago, in her 53d year.

IRELAND.

THE PROGRESS OF STARVATION.

The following is a portion of a letter addressed to the committee in London, by a gentleman whom the British Association for the Relief of Distress in Ireland and Scotland has recently sent to the north-west coast of Ireland. It gives a most lamentable account of the distress now existing in Ireland:—

"Both the official and private reports and correspondence to which I had access in Dublin, had been unanimous in declaring the state of Ireland, and particularly that part of it which the committee pointed out in my instructions as being that of the utmost distress and destitution."

"The circuitous route which I have taken to arrive at Westport, not only corroborated the above, but added a darker shade to the already dark picture of that distress and destitution."

"At Carrick-on-Shannon I found the poor-house and hospital crowded with half-naked and emaciated men, women, and children, prey to dysentery and fever, which terminated fatally. The number of daily deaths exceeded the supply of coffins which the place could furnish."

"Between Carrick and Sligo, numberless straggling and ragged families had been observed, some crawling, some squatted on the road side, through utter exhaustion, all bearing downcast, broken, and worn-out countenances—fearful results of starvation, sickness, and the exposure to the inclemency of the weather, which alternated with rain and snow."

"At Sligo, I have found the streets swarming with the distressed, clamorous through hunger, although orderly, respectful to persons, and respecting their property. The poor-house presented an awful number of cases of fever and dysentery, which commonly terminated fatally. To these abodes applications for admission are daily increasing, not only on account of the relief which is sought, but through the anxiety of those conscious of their approaching end to die in a poor house, and thus to be entitled to a coffin and a Christian burial."

"In that poor-house, or, properly speaking, workhouse, there are 500 persons sick, and the master and the under-master in fever!"

The *Sligo Champion* confirms the account given in the above letter of the state of that county. It says—"The Coroner is still busily engaged in this county—the people are still dying of hunger. The following inquests have been held: On the 23rd ult., at Shaucoogh, on the body of Francis Kelly. Same day, at Ballysummaugh, on the body of Catherine Hoy. On the 24th, at Ballisodare, on the body of Maurice Conroy. On the 26th, at Killery, on the body of John Caucurn. On the 27th, at Kilmacallan, on the body of James Kilmartin; on the body of Michael Tighe; at Rossmore, on the body of Michael Conolan; at Ballinacarrow, on the body of Michael Hart. The verdict in every instance was 'Died of starvation.'"

The *Traveller Chronicle* thus reports on the state of the county of Kerry:—"Accounts of starvation and death reach us from every quarter of the county, and the scenes which we witness in our own streets, and in the vicinity of Tralee, are woefully corroborative of the general destitution and waste of human life. Dysentery and fever are becoming every day more rife in our lanes. In Dingle they are dying by dozens from fever, dysentery, and famine, and burying without coffins."

The *Tuam Herald* speaks thus of the county of Galway:—"From every quarter of the county we are literally besieged with the heart-rending particulars of the progress of famine. A respectable correspondent in the neighbourhood of Kilcouly has communicated to us the loss of no less than eighteen lives from want and destitution! And this occurring in a few short days."

The *Cork Examiner* speaking of the district of Youghal, says:—

"Inquests have been here held, and the verdict in each of three melancholy cases was 'Death by starvation.' A family of the Cronins, consisting of father, mother, and son, lived at a place called the Windmill, about a mile from the town of Youghal. On the night of Tuesday (last week), the mother, Margaret, and her son, Patrick, died in the same bed with the father, Michael, whom hunger had rendered so helpless that he could give them no assistance in their last struggle, nor even make their case known to the neighbours. The verdict was 'Death by starvation.' In the previous week there was revealed another case of a still more horrible nature."

"A person named Thomas Millar, from Ring, a place on the extreme coast, opposite Cable Island, came with his wife to Youghal, where they both offered for sale at an apothecary's shop, the dead body of a male child, aged seven years. The authorities were informed of the circumstance, and the parties were arrested. Upon being interrogated, they coolly acknowledged that this child was a nephew of theirs, who had died in their house, and they brought him to the doctor's to get something for the body that would keep the life in themselves and their children. The description they gave of their suffering was frightful in the extreme. On more than one occasion they had determined to kill, and eat the cat, only they feared it would poison them. The verdict in the case of this child, too, was 'Death by starvation.'"

The equally dreadful calamity of pestilence excites the most painful alarm in the same county of Cork.

The Rev. Richard Boyle Townsend, vicar of Abbey Stewrey, has addressed to us a letter full of harrowing details regarding the people about Skibbereen. In a postscript to his letter, the Rev. gentleman says:—

"The following thrilling and hideous fact was given me by a physician:— 'A man named Jeremiah Donovan (of the Abbey Lands) was in the habit of applying to me for relief. I missed him at my door for some days. On going to his house this morning, I was told that he had that moment dragged his father out for interment! I then went across the road about 40 feet, and found him attempting to dig a hole in which to deposit the deceased, which from his weakness he was unable to do; I was obliged to assist him. He had the trunk covered, but the legs and feet were sticking up! We could not make a hole for the head, but threw down upon it part of the sod fence near which he had laid the corpse, and there it lies at this moment!'"

Such is the hardening effect of the carnage which famine, plague, and cold are carrying on amongst us! No possibility for the creatures to procure decent interment for their dead—a thing once so cherished by them! They are now thrown or left to the dogs to prevent their starving!

DEATH OF SIR VALENTINE BLAKE.—A letter has been received in Dublin, announcing the death of Sir Valentine Blake, Bart.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. N. P." and "A Subscriber."—The justly-celebrated *Indian Problem* appears every month on the wrapper of the "Chess-Player's Chronicle;" and, as this work is now, from its price, within the reach of everybody, hundreds of amateurs will be devoting themselves to its solution. It is much better, therefore, for the proprietors to withhold the key to it. Besides, no Chess-player of mettle will permit himself to be defeated by a position only four moves deep.

"P. T. W."—To join the London Chess Club, you must first address a line to the Honorary Secretary, George and Vulture Hotel, Cornhill: every facility will then be afforded you.

"Dux."—A Pawn in such a situation, if moved two squares, may be taken by the hostile Pawn, if the adversary chooses.

"Sigma."—They are imperfect, and quite unsuited for publication, we are sorry to say.

"X. Y. Z."—The idea is ingenious: we will examine the moves attentively, and give an opinion next week.

"Subscriber."—right. The oversight of the inventor has been pointed out by several Correspondents.

"P. P."—"W. B. N."—"H. T. O."—The quarterly subscription to the "Chess-Player's Chronicle" is only 4s. 4d., including postage; and, for this trifle, you may have the periodical, with its week's instruction and entertainment, every Thursday morning.

"W. H. L."—"Peon."—Pray spare us your "first attempts" at Problem-making, and let us have the fruits of your experience after the first five hundred.

"Cur."—We have not room to give the solution. Try it again—and again.

"V. H. der L."—Berlin, is thanked. The resemblance is certainly too remarkable for accident, and shall be immediately pointed out to the constructor.

"J. G. B."—Cheltenham.—The diagram No. 156 is quite correct. In the solution, it should be "1. K to Q B 5th," not "1. Kt to Q B 5th."

"S. B."—Hull.—A great improvement on the others. See Enigmas in the present Number.

"E. S. S."—Dundee.—Somewhat too simple for our columns. Try again.

"Quartett."—If "Quartett" will address a line to the Editor of the Magazine named, he will be sure to obtain the amended solution which we have not space to give.

"W. J. B."—Problem No. 148 cannot be solved as you suggest. Have the goodness to write more legibly. Correspondents should bear in mind that, unless their signatures are distinct, it is impossible, with the mass of communications we receive, to avoid confusion.

"J. G."—Finsbury Chess Club.—If you will devote half the time to the attentive examination of Problem No. 157, which you have wasted on criticising it, you will then discover that it is correct and beautiful. The first move in No. 156 is "K to Q B 5th." "Kt" is obviously a misprint.

"B. J. K."—Your letters, to be noticed the same week, should reach us not later than Wednesday morning.

"Ludimagister."—Thanks for the information.

"A Regular Purchaser."—Look once more, and you will see that White can mate at K B 7th, if the King's Pawn is pushed.

"J. R. E."—Decidedly better than the former attempts.

Solutions by "B. A." "R. S. C." "B. J. K." "Ludimagister," "G. A. H.," "M. P.," "G. T. R.," and "F." Sandhurst, are correct. Those by "Fred," "Cheshunt," "T. B. M.," and "Milo," are wrong.

** Any Amateur in Edinburgh or Glasgow, desirous of playing a Game or two by Correspondence, may find an opponent by addressing a line to "Alpha," Windygates, near Leven.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM, No. 158.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to K Kt 8th (ch) K to Q B's 2nd		5. Kt to Q B 7th (ch) R takes Kt	
2. Kt to Q Kt 5th (ch) K to Q Kt sq		6. Kt to Q Kt 6th (ch) P takes Kt (ch)	
3. Kt to Q 7th (double ch) K to R sq		7. K takes P (dis ch) Q takes R	
4. Q to her Kt 8th (ch) R takes Q		8. R takes R (ch) K must take Rook	

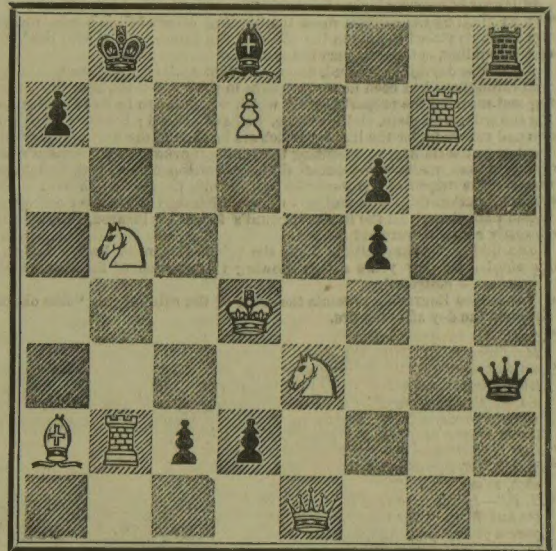
and White is Stalemated.

PROBLEM, No. 159.

By Mr. C. R. L.

White playing first can mate in seven moves.

BLACK.



WHITE.

CHESS IN FRANCE.

WHITE (M. D.)	BLACK (M. K.)	WHITE (M. D.)	BLACK (M. K.)
1. K P two	K P two	27. B takes P	K Kt P one
2. K P two	P takes P	28. B to K 5th	K R to K 2nd
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B checks	29. K R P two	K to B 2nd
4. Q B P one	P takes P	30. Q R P two	Q R to K sq
5. P takes P	Q to K B 3rd	31. P P one	P takes P
6. Q to her Kt 3rd	B to Q B 4th	32. B takes P	K R to K 5th
7. K Kt to B 3rd	K R P two	33. Q R to Q B sq	Q Kt P one
8. Castles	Q Kt to B 3rd	34. B to K 5th	Q R to Q sq
9. K B to Q 5th	K Kt to K 2nd	35. Q R P one (c)	K R to K 7th
10. B to Kt 2nd	Kt takes K B	36. B to K 5th	K R to K 7th
11. P takes Kt	Kt to K 4th	37. P takes P	P takes P
12. Q Kt to Q 2nd (a)	Kt takes K Kt (ch)	38. B takes P	B to K 5th
13. Kt takes Kt	Castles	39. B takes P	B takes K Kt P
14. Q B P one	Q to K Kt 3rd	40. B to Q Kt 4th	Q R to K 7th
15. Kt to K 5th	Q to her Kt 3rd	41. Q R to K sq	K R to K 7th
16. Q to her B 3rd	Q to her Kt 5th	42. Q R checks	K to B 3rd
17. Q to her B 2nd	Q P one	43. K R to K 3rd	B to B 4th
18. Kt to Q 3rd	Q to her R 4th	44. K R to Kt 3rd	B to Q R sq
19. B to Q B 3rd	Q to her R 3rd (b)	45. Q R to K B 7th	
20. Kt takes B	P takes Kt		K to his 3rd
21. B to Q Kt 2nd	Q to K Kt 3rd	46. Q R to Q 7th (ch)	K to B 3rd
22. Q to her B 3rd	Q to K B 4th	47. Q R to K sq	K R to K 7th
23. K B P two	K R to K sq	48. K to B sq	R to R 8th (ch)
24. K R to B 3rd	K B P one	49. R to K Kt sq	B to Kt 7th (d)
25. R to K Kt 3rd	Q to K B 2nd		Mate.
26. Q takes K B P	Q takes Q		

(a) K R to K sq, followed by Q B P one, would have been a strong move.

(b) If to Kt 3rd, White could attack her with his Q Rook.

(c) Very well played.

(d) Curious and pretty termination.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

(HITHERTO UNPUBLISHED.)

No. 112.—By Mr. WILLIAMSON.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
K at K R 2d	K at K R 4th	Kts at K R 8th and Kts at K 8th and Q	
Q at Q B 7th	Q at her B sq	K B 2d	7th
R at K 6th	R at K 2d	P at K R 3d	Ps at K R 3d,
B at Q 8th	R at Q B 8th		K B 3d Q Kt 2d
B at Q 7th	B at K B 2d		White to play and mate in four moves

No. 113.—By Mr. S. B. of Hull.

DESTRUCTION OF EASTON LODGE, BY FIRE.

ANOTHER of the proud and noble mansions of England has fallen by fire—Easton Lodge, near Dunmow, Essex, the residence of Lord Viscount Maynard, which possessed a peculiar interest in that part of the kingdom, not only from its presenting a noble pile, in the Elizabethan style of architecture, modified by the taste and luxury of the present day, but as forming the “stately home” of the Lord-Lieutenant of Essex. It is now a heap of black ruins, beneath which lies buried much costly and valuable property.

This calamity, which has laid the main body of the fine old house in ruins, occurred at an early hour on Sunday morning.

It seems that, at three o'clock in the morning, while the noble Viscount and Lady Maynard were in bed, their attention was attracted to a strange crackling noise in some of the other apartments; and the first thought that suggested itself being that thieves were endeavouring to effect an entrance, his Lordship rose, and proceeded to his dressing-room. There he found an enemy far more formidable than human robbers. The whole apartment was filled with a dense smoke, and the flames were already curling up the walls of one side of the room, though the immediate cause of this ignition did not appear. His Lordship, with great promptness and presence of mind, endeavoured, in the first instance, so to apply the carpet as to smother the rising flames; and, all the household being aroused, the servants set vigorously to work with buckets of water, to endeavour to check the first progress of the fire. This, it was soon found, was vain. It was then resolved to summon the aid of the neighbourhood by means of the alarm-bell, when it was found in this they were foiled; the rope of the bell had become entangled, and thus rendered useless; but the situation of the mansion was soon after announced to the inhabitants of the district by the red glare that illumined the sky.

The small engine belonging to the lodge was useless to stay the flames. Another engine shortly arrived from Thaxted, and every exertion was made to get the engines into play; but, in the meantime, the flames had made fearful progress, swallowing up in an hour what centuries had spared. Many persons, who reached the spot early, had directed their efforts to the saving of the books, pictures, and other valuable articles in the library and billiard-room, in which they happily succeeded, so that the valuable paintings, with few exceptions, were saved and placed in the granary, and a large quantity of plate and costly furniture stowed in the coach-house and other buildings, about twenty horses having been turned into the park, in order to make room, and preserve them from danger.

While the work of devastation was going on, the noble Viscount was busy directing, with great calmness and forethought, the efforts of the firemen and assistants; and Lady Maynard and the Hon. Miss Maynard, notwithstanding the cold blast of a wintry morning, maintained their place upon the lawn, watching the destruction of their princely home.

At a quarter before five the handsome old turret clock caught fire, the hands stopped, and, enshrouded in a sheet of flame, the whole fell into the burning mass below. Of this portion of the building nothing was left of the stately pile, except the curious and antiquated brick chimneys.

About six o'clock all efforts were directed to cutting off the communication over the billiard-room, and thus saving the part not then ignited. By the incessant labour of a strong body of persons this was effected, a large stream of water being poured by the engines upon the burning rafters of the centre rooms, and wet blankets placed to deaden the effect of the flames. This, with the left wing of the building, is the only part left standing.

As soon as daylight appeared, Superintendent Anderson and the police present, who throughout had been most strenuous in their exertions, commenced collecting and securing the property saved, which was found to be considerable, including the paintings, plate, and furniture, we have noticed; the wine, which was in gilded cellars under the library, which are brick, and the beautiful stained glass window in the library, representing the principal events in our Saviour's history, were got out, under the especial direction of the noble Lord, and preserved intact. The whole of the wardrobe of the noble family was destroyed, the damage altogether done amounting to some thousands of pounds; and we regret to add that, though all the noble Viscount's farms are insured, the mansion and its costly contents were not so.

The first of our Illustrations shows the principal front of Easton Lodge, as it appeared some few years since; showing that portion of the mansion entire, which is now destroyed.

The second Engraving presents the scene of the ruins of this “fine old place,” sketched the day after the fire.



EASTON LODGE, NEAR DUNMOW.—SOUTH VIEW.

MORTALITY IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 1846.

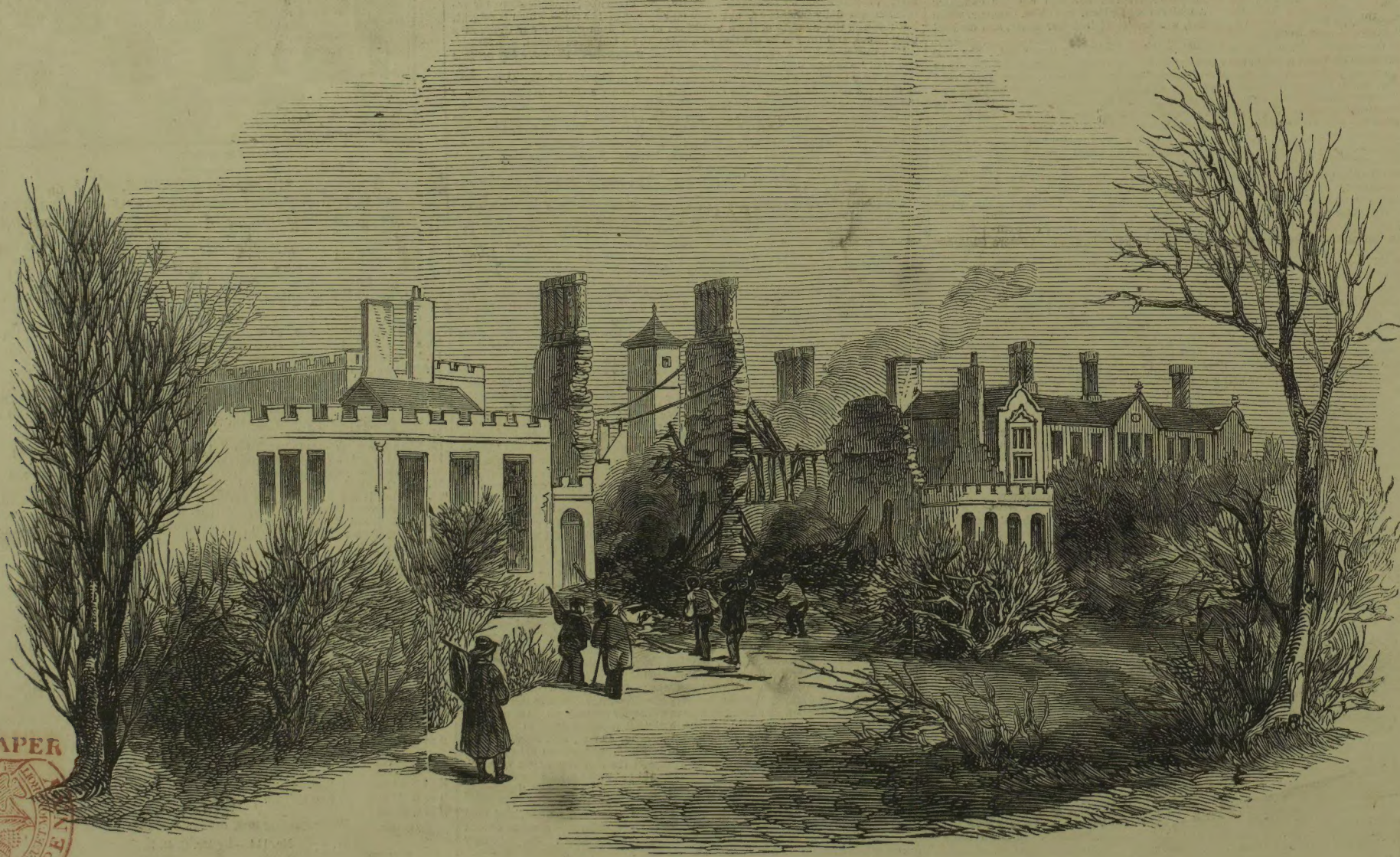
The official quarterly return of mortality in England presents some very interesting results. The account for the three months ending January 31, 1846, of the population of one hundred and fifteen districts of England, is very unfavourable, as compared with the former period; 52,905 deaths were registered in the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1846, which is 7311 more than the corrected quarterly average of previous years, and 13,727 more than were returned in the corresponding season of 1845. The deaths in 1846 were 50,000 more than in 1845; and nearly the whole of the excess in 1846 arose on the last two quarters of the year, from diseases of a totally different character. Bronchitis (in many cases a consequence of influenza), asthma, rheumatism, and diseases of the stomach and liver, were more than usually fatal; 397 persons (including suicides) died violent deaths—a number nearly 100 greater than died from the same causes in the December quarter of 1845. The deaths from cold and want were nearly twice as numerous as in previous years. These fatal causes operated with fearful effect in Manchester and Liverpool. The deaths in Manchester during the December quarter of 1845 were 2555. In the corresponding period of 1846, they were 4029. In Liverpool, the deaths during the same period increased from 1981 to 2735. It appears from the returns of seven years, ending 1844, that the mortality of Liverpool and Manchester, and the worst parts of other towns, is nearly double the mortality of tolerably salubrious districts; and the document shows that, while the mortality of the latter districts was raised 50 or 60 per cent., the frightful mortality of the denser districts was raised from 70 to 100 per cent. in 1846, over 1845. The increased mortality in London conveys but a faint notion of the mortality in the larger towns of the country. The deaths in the December quarter of 1845 and 1846 were, respectively, 11,695 and 13,033, in the London districts; 27,483 and 39,872, in the other districts which made returns. The “high price of provisions, depression of trade, and distress,” are referred to by some of the registrars, as causes of the high mortality in December; but it is worthy of especial notice, that no mention is made of the potato disease having had any direct connection with the mortality. The Registrar-General conceives that the excessive mortality is principally to be attributed to the animal and vegetable poisons, arising from accumulated filth, crowding in dwellings and workshops, closeness of courts, imperfect supplies of water, and the want of efficient sewers. The high temperature of 1846 accelerated decomposition, and increased the virulence of these effluvia poisons, as well as of the diseases which they promote. The Registrar-General adduces, as powerful evidence of the efficacy of sanitary measures, the comparative mortality amongst seamen during the last century, compared with more recent periods. Not the least valuable portion of the report is that relating to the meteorological phenomena during the period embraced by the returns of mortality. Although the mortality runs so high, the

daily births have exceeded the deaths by 1056. The population of the United Kingdom in 1846 was about 28,487,000; the probable permanent increase was about 800 daily; for, although the births exceed the deaths by 1056, the surplus of 256 is the average number who leave the kingdom.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT WITH FIRE-ARMS.—Yesterday week a lamentable occurrence took place at one of the houses about midway between Hertford and Ware. Mr. Golborne, a retired farmer, about sixty-two years of age, went into his garden about half-past one o'clock with a double-barrelled gun. He fired at and wounded a bullfinch, which, however, he could not catch, and it took refuge in a laurel hedge which parts the flower-garden from the kitchen garden. He called to his housemaid to come and assist him in catching the bird. She came into the flower garden, and looked about the hedge on one side while her master examined the other. Suddenly she heard the gun go off, saw Mr. Golborne fall, and heard him utter a slight groan. Being convinced that he was shot, she ran to obtain assistance. At that instant, Mr. C. E. Kelle, who resides in London, and who is married to Mr. Golborne's eldest daughter, came in at the gate, having just arrived from the Ware station, but he was too horrified to be of any assistance. Mr. Golborne died almost instantly. How the accident was caused is uncertain; but it is supposed that, after firing at the bullfinch with one barrel, he ran up to the hedge, with the hammer of the second barrel on full cock, and thrust the butt-end among the twigs to discover the bird, and that the piece was fired by the trigger coming in contact with a branch. The muzzle must have been close to the deceased's chest at the time, as his coat, waistcoat, and braces were much burnt. The charge entered his chest, making an orifice of about two inches in diameter, and came out at his back. He bled but little externally. Mrs. Golborne was absent from home. As soon as Mr. Kelle had become in some degree composed, he set out on the melancholy journey of informing the different members of the family of their sad loss.

FATAL COAL-PIT ACCIDENT NEAR SHEFFIELD.—Yesterday week, a lamentable accident, attended with the loss of six lives, occurred at one of the Darley Main Coal Company's pits, at Worsbrough Dale, about four miles from Barnsley, and ten from Sheffield. On that afternoon, about two o'clock, some men who were employed in one part of the pit fired a blast of gunpowder for the purpose of bringing down a large piece of coal. Shortly after the explosion, a large mass of coal was found on fire, and every exertion was used to stop up the drift-ways, or roads through which the air was admitted, and to put out the fire, by throwing water upon it. The men were engaged in this manner, from two o'clock until four, at which time, instead of having checked the flames, it was found they were gaining upon them. Exertions were made, and in the course of some hours the bodies of six men were found; and they were each removed to their homes. The other men, eight in number, who had escaped from suffocation, only with great difficulty, were, immediately after being removed from the pit, attended by a surgeon, who administered such remedies as their cases required, and, though suffering severely, there is every reason to hope that they will recover. The cause of the accident has not yet been clearly ascertained.

CURIOUS SUICIDE OF TWO LOVERS.—Last Saturday, a young man named Hampson, about 25, the son of the landlord of the Fountain Inn, Wakefield, was found drowned in the river Calder, not far from his father's house, and a young woman, a dressmaker, named Morton, whose mother was formerly in the service of a Baronet's lady in the neighbourhood, was also found at the same time and place. It seems that some attachment had sprung up between the parties, which had not been agreeable to the friends of the young woman, but no very strenuous opposition had been made to their union. The suicidal determination must have been strong in each, for their bodies were firmly tied together with four handkerchiefs, which must have been fastened by Hampson, as the knots were tied behind the young woman. In his pocket was found a pistol loaded with ball, and two bullets, some powder, caps, &c.; and in her pockets was found a soft substance, like paste, which is supposed to be poison. What tends to make the affair more mysterious, is the total inability of any one to find a reason for the commission of such a rash act. There were no marks of violence on either of the bodies, nor anything to lead to the belief that either of them had come to their death by unfair means. The deceased young woman was about twenty-one years of age, a fine figure, and very pretty. An inquest was held on the bodies on Saturday, when the Jury returned the following verdict:—“Found drowned, without any marks of violence; but how, or by what means they got into the canal, there is no evidence to show.”



RUINS OF EASTON LODGE, AFTER THE RECENT FIRE.—DRAWN BY MR. LANDELLS.

F I N E A R T S .

LA FLEUR DES SALONS.*

Fair Flow'et of the Ball-room—
Youthful Queen
Of Fashion, which obeys thee, as
a slave;
How beautiful and graceful is thy
mien—
Blooming as Venus from the free-
born wave!
The Graces deck thy toilet, and a
light—
An atmosphere of joy around thee
beams,
Fleur des Salons! where Wit is
flashing bright,
And Love indulges in celestial
dreams—
Where the gay world of Paris—
Fashion's heart—
Thrills to the voice of Mirth and
Syren song,
Throned in the souls of many, there
thou art,
Sweet cynosure! amid the bril-
liant throng.
And yet, though gallant spirits
round thee bow,
A cloud seems clinging to thy vir-
gin brow.

Is it the pride of Passion, that would
guard
The nestlings of the heart from
vulgar eyes,
And, like the lark when soaring
from the sward,
Can commune only with the
glorious skies?
Or can it be that, in thy beauty's
power,
Men thou regardest as unworthy,
vile—
Vain votaries, to win from thee, fair
Flower
Of the Salons! the guerdon of a
smile!
Or—oh! far worse—has unrequited
Love
Brought darkness o'er the sun-
shine of thy soul—
And, 'mid the dance and song, thou
still must prove
The pangs inflicted 'neath his dire
control?
No! no! such doom could never
low'r on thee,
Daughter of Beauty! 'mong the
brave and free.

Fleur des Salons! fair daughter of
fair France,
May Peace bestrew thy path with
thornless flowers!
Light be thy footstep in the sprightly
dance,
Joyous thy laugh in Beauty's
spotless bowrs;
And, haply, soon, when round the
parent stem
Sweet buds of promise grace their
mother's breast,
Oh! spotlessly may beam each
"bonnie Gem,"
Worthy the heart on which it was
caress'd!
Proud though thy triumphs in the
dazzling hall—
Where thou, fair Excellence! still
reignest Queen—
The mother's sacred love eclipses all
The pleasures that surround the
brilliant scene.
Fleur des Salons! how feeble is the
lay
That fain would blazon Beauty's
angel sway.—L.



LA FLEUR DES SALONS.—PAINTED BY DUBUFE.

* From a Painting by Dubufe. Engraved by J. A. Allais, and published in Paris by MM. Goupil, Vibert, and Co.; in London, by MM. Gambart, Junin, and Co.

THE ELECTION FOR MIDDLESEX.

On Wednesday morning the nomination and election of a representative for the county of Middlesex, in the room of the late Mr. Byng, took place at Brentford.

In spite of the inclemency of the weather, and the fact that the honours of the representation were not disputed by rival candidates, there was a goodly assemblage of electors and non-electors present on the occasion. The hustings were

erected in the market-place, and the arrangements were carefully made by the authorities to secure order in the proceedings. Shortly before the hour appointed for the nomination, Lord Robert Grosvenor, who was the only candidate who offered for the vacant seat, escorted by a party of friends and supporters, arrived in Brentford, and, driving up in a carriage and four, took his place on the platform. He was surrounded by Lord Marcus Hill, Sir Walter Stirling, General Sir De Lacy Evans, Mr. Whitbread, and other gentlemen of influence and distinction. Sheriffs Challis and Kennard appeared on the hustings in their robes of office, accompanied by Mr. Baylis, the Under Sheriff, and the other officers whose services are required to comply with the statutory forms necessary on such occasions. Lady Grosvenor and family were present, and seemed to take a lively interest in the proceedings. They arrived in carriages and four, accompanied by

held up in favour of the proposed candidate, and only two against him. The Sheriff declared Lord Robert Grosvenor to be duly elected as a member to serve in Parliament for the county of Middlesex, in the present session of Parliament.

Lord Robert Grosvenor then came forward, and was received in the most enthusiastic manner. The noble Lord said—Mr. Sheriff and gentlemen, electors of the county of Middlesex, I must beg, in the first place, to thank you most kindly for the kind and warm reception which you have been pleased to accord to me upon the present occasion. Gentlemen, it is not the first time that I have appeared upon the hustings. (A voice: "It won't be the last.") I hope not. Gentlemen, nothing, I do assure you, would have induced me to have obtruded myself upon your notice upon the present occasion, had I not been assured that I was called upon to do so by the united strength of the late lamented Mr. Byng's

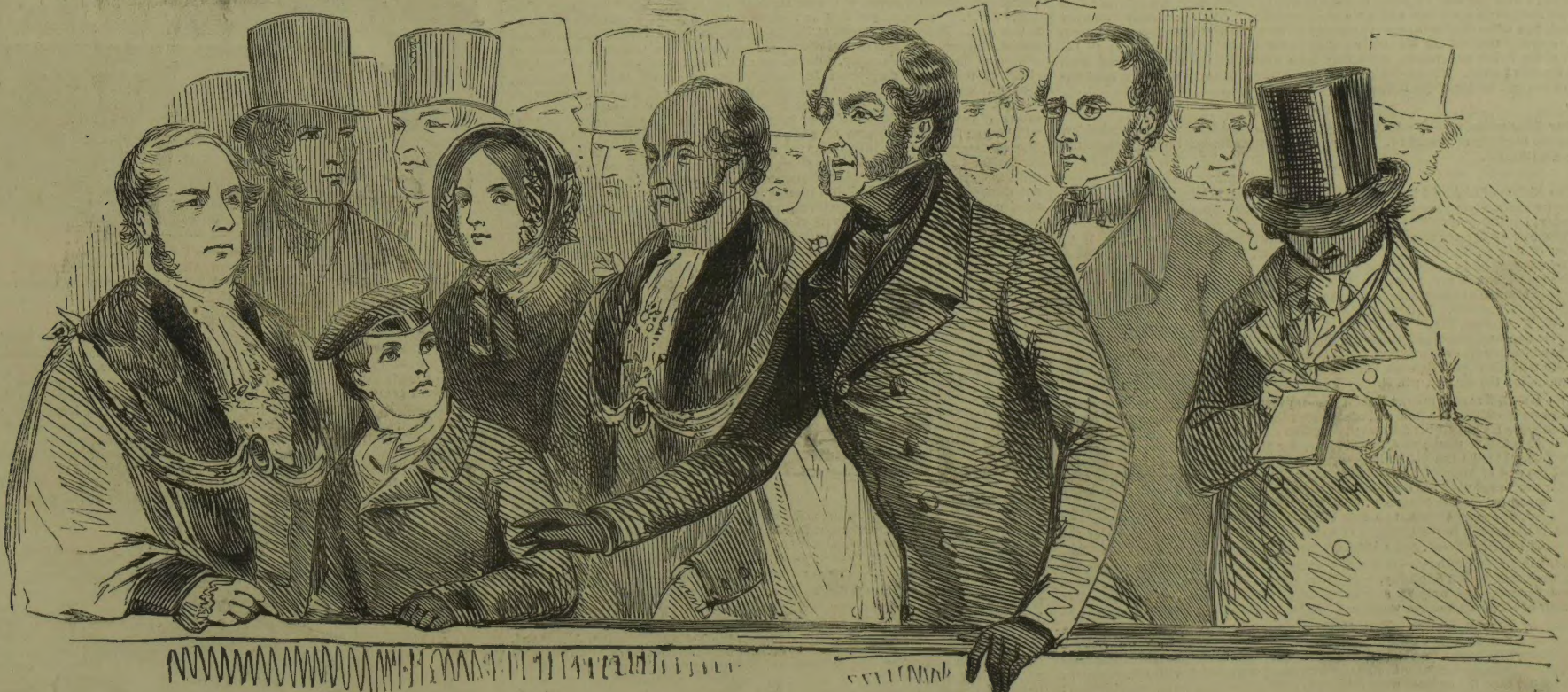
a cavalcade of his Lordship's supporters, decorated with ribbons and rosettes of buff and blue. There were a few banners and flags.

After the usual formalities, and a brief address from Mr. Sheriff Challis,

The Hon. E. P. Bouverie came forward to propose Lord Robert Grosvenor. He said: Friends and brother electors of this county—The proposal I am about to submit to you—the name of a gentleman to represent you in Parliament—is so likely to be received with general and unanimous approbation that I do not consider it necessary to detain you at any length. During the whole course of Mr. Byng's political life he had proved himself the friend of civil and religious liberty, and he thought that the duty of the Government was to legislate for the welfare of the people. If this principle actuates us, then are we bound to find another person who entertains these views, and who will endeavour to carry them out in the Parliament of the country. (Hear, hear, hear.) The whole political life of the noble Lord will prove that he is pre-eminently that person. (Cheers.) For twenty years he has shown himself the friend of civil and religious liberty; he has shown himself the friend of the civil and the practical reforms which have agitated the country and he has been found always enlisted on the side of the people. (Cheers.) I entirely agree with the sentiments of the noble Lord from the many years' experience of his past life, and I have now, therefore, no hesitation in recommending him to your choice as your representative. (Continued cheering.) The man you require is Lord Robert Grosvenor, and it is with great pleasure that I propose him as a fit person to represent you in Parliament. (Cheers.)

Sir E. N. Buxton said—I have a great deal of pleasure in seconding the nomination of Lord Robert Grosvenor as a fit person to represent you in Parliament. I cannot, however, address the electors of this great county without expressing my feeling respecting your late representative. I am sure that no one was acquainted with his character and virtues who entertained not the highest respect for Mr. Byng, and I am convinced that no man whatever could, throughout such a lengthened political life—a life extending over 56 years—have preserved such a cordial feeling with his constituents, unless he had been actuated by the highest, the best, and purest motives. (Loud cheers.) You are aware that during this period questions of vital importance to the world were discussed—but you are also aware, that whatever might be the inducements to overlook your interests, you had an honest and honourable gentleman to see to your own interests. I feel that we are met this day on a solemn occasion. If we consider the state of this country and of Ireland, we cannot send a man to Parliament without being conscious that we have a great and solemn duty to perform; and I confess that when I heard of Mr. Byng's death I thought it would be a difficult matter for the electors of this county to find another man to supply his place with equal satisfaction to yourselves and to the country. I do think, however, that you cannot find a man better qualified to fill the place of your late representative than the noble Lord who now offers himself to your suffrages. (Cheers.) We know Lord Robert Grosvenor to be the friend of the poor. (Cheers.) We know him to be a man who will not sanction any measure which he thinks inimical to the people or their Constitution. (Continued cheering.) Although I do not concur in every sentiment of Lord Robert Grosvenor, still I am of opinion that there is no man better qualified to represent us; and it is, therefore, with great pleasure that I second the nomination of Lord Robert Grosvenor to represent us in Parliament.

The Sheriffs having requested any person who had any other candidate to propose to come forward and do so, and no person responding, proceeded to take the show of hands. A forest of hands was



THE MIDDLESEX ELECTION ON WEDNESDAY.—SKETCH FROM THE HUSTINGS.—LORD ROBERT GROSVENOR ADDRESSING THE FREEHOLDERS.

supporters, and the assurance conveyed to me by my friend behind me, Mr. C. Whitbread, the Chairman of the Committee of which he was the originator and supporter—than whom, no person could be more capable of appreciating the sentiments and feelings of the electors of Middlesex—nothing less than those appearances would have induced me to sever that connection with my attached friends—the city of Chester (cheers)—who, during a period of more than twenty years, have honoured me with unwavering kindness, and such implicit confidence—nothing less than the assurance that you would give me the same co-operation and assistance in the performance of the arduous duties now imposed upon me, would have induced me to undertake the serious duties attached to the representation of the county of Middlesex. Before I say another word about myself, you must permit me to discharge a duty I owe, and also to consult my own feelings, by saying something with reference to my late respected friend Mr. Byng, the late member for the county of Middlesex, whose memory is so justly dear to us all. (Cheers.) I do not know how, in a few words, I can better sum up my feelings than by using the words of the friends of that lamented gentleman, who would inscribe this proud epitaph upon his tomb, "That, having for upwards of fifty years represented not merely the rural and suburban portions of the county which I have the honour now to represent, but nearly one-half of the metropolis besides, during the most eventful and the most critical period of the history of the British nation, had at length descended to the tomb full of years, without a single enemy, and with the respect and attachment of all parties and all classes, among his great and enlightened constituents." (Cheers.) During 25 years—the period I have been in Parliament—I believe that I may say that political consistency, at present at a discount, was not much relied on. I do not attach any exaggerated notion to the idea of political consistency. I am not so presumptuous as to say that, during the time I have been in Parliament, I never modified my opinion upon any political questions. And that was the secret of the great confidence which my former constituents reposed in me, that during the whole of that time I never was compelled entirely to alter my opinions upon any great measure brought before the House of Commons. (Cheers.) I, as a member of that small but determined band, aided in giving the first blow to those systems which I have described to you, by assisting Mr. George Canning, in his great struggle in 1826, and also by assisting Sir Robert Peel upon a very late occasion. (Cheers.) Now, gentlemen, during all this struggle, continued with various successes, I had always the distinguished satisfaction of finding myself, upon every occasion, side by side with your late lamented and respected representative, Mr. G. Byng. There are still many social, fiscal, and educational reforms to be accomplished, and which will require the most unwearied exertions to bring about; reforms which those I now address will, I doubt not, if their lives be spared, live to witness. (Cheers.) I am truly attached to the working classes. (Cheers.) I feel deeply what we all owe to them, and especially the working classes of the metropolis. Mr. Cobden, than whom no person could be supposed to be a more accurate observer, said, "that however great might be the industry of the working classes of the manufacturing districts to which he belonged, still, he must fairly state that the artisans of London were far superior to them." I do not think that those working classes have been fairly treated; they have been most sadly neglected. I can assure the electors of Middlesex that any measure which may be brought forward having for its object the amelioration of that class will have my most earnest support. (Loud cheers.) Now, gentlemen, sincerely thanking you for the very great kindness with which you have been pleased, on such a day as this, to listen to the observations which I have addressed to you, and most cordially thanking you for the honour you have conferred upon me—and which honour I value most highly—knowing that I shall very shortly be called upon to tell you in what way I have fulfilled the trust which you have conferred to me, I respectfully, for the present, take my leave of you. (The noble Lord then retired, amidst loud demonstrations of applause.)

Sir Walter Stirling then came forward, and in a brief address congratulated the electors on having chosen a member so eminently qualified in every way to be their representative.

Lord Robert Grosvenor then proposed a vote of thanks to the Sheriffs, which compliment was cordially responded to; and three cheers having been given for the ladies, the proceedings closed.

LORD ROBERT GROSVENOR.

ELECTIONS towards the close of the existence of Parliament are rarely contested with any strong spirit of opposition. A year, or a year and a half, is too short a term to make it worth men's while to plunge into all the excitement and expense of a conflict in a large constituency, for a short-lived honour. A series of quiet, unopposed elections may therefore be taken as the premonitory symptoms of the natural termination of the existence of the Legislature; it is doomed, and men hold aloof for awhile:

What mariner is not afraid
To venture in a ship decay'd?
What husbandman would ever yoke
A sapling to the falling oak?

On the same principle, would-be Legislators avoid an expiring Parliament. This, joined with the general suspension of party politics, which has been produced by many causes, may account for a phenomenon which at one period would have appeared almost incredible—an Election for Middlesex without a contest. Some of the fiercest of our political battles have been fought in the Metropolitan County; Middlesex and Westminster were the very centres of violence and agitation; the conflict between Wilkes and the House of Commons, which has become an historical event, grew out of his election for Middlesex; he was expelled the House, and elected again, in a storm of popular fury, of which we can now form but an imperfect notion. The journals and caricatures of thirty or forty years ago, exhibit a degree of political rancour and excitement, breaking out in insult, violence, abuse, subsiding in drunkenness, and what we may call political debauchery, that present the most striking contrast to the quiet and order of the hustings at Brentford on Wednesday last; and the change is certainly for the better.

Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., who now represents Middlesex in the place of the late Mr. Byng, is well known in public life; he has been for many years in Parliament; he has taken the leading part on all occasions when the cause of Polish freedom could be advocated, or its defenders assisted; and the physical and moral improvement of the people has always found in him an able champion. He is the third son of the late, and brother of the present Marquis of Westminster. He has represented Chester ever since 1826, on the family interest; but has given up the seat for his nephew, who has just been returned without opposition. Though Lord Robert Grosvenor is better known to the public in connection with the cause of Poland than of his advocacy of any particular political question, yet the short sketch of his career which he gave from the hustings on Wednesday is not without interest. He said—"I was born and educated in the heart of the city of Westminster, and within the sound of its Abbey bells; I was introduced to political life 25 years ago, and at that time I found a Parliament unreformed, which could not in any way be said to represent the people of England—I found a criminal law full of unsatisfactory anomalies—I found civil disabilities and penal laws against our Roman Catholic fellow-subjects, and I found acts enforced which pressed in a most unjust and oppressive manner upon the consciences of those religious denominations which differed from the Church—I found slavery existing in our colonies—I found trade and commerce fettered by unjust monopolies—worse, and of all, I found it impossible to obtain the redress of grievances, however clearly they were proved. I hesitated not to attach myself to that small but increasing band of men who opposed themselves to this bad system; and, without going into any detail of the measures we succeeded in passing, I may say that we never relaxed in our exertions until we obtained that better state of things under which we are now living." This is tersely and truly stated, and relieved him from the necessity of an express declaration of opinions. It is singular that neither his mover nor seconder alluded to his exertions on behalf of the Polish emigration, since they have gained him so much respect from the English public. His Lordship is about forty-six years of age; he held the office of Comptroller of the Household from 1830 to 1834.

Our illustration portrays Lord Robert Grosvenor addressing the freeholders from the hustings at Brentford. His Lordship is surrounded by his Committee, the Sheriffs, &c.

The Bishop of Lichfield has notified his intention of holding general ordinations for the present year on Trinity Sunday, May 30; Sunday, September 19; Sunday, December 19.

NEW SEE OF MANCHESTER.—There is a rumour that the Rev. J. Slade, M.A., Vicar of Bolton, and Canon of Chester Cathedral, is to be the new Bishop of Manchester.

ELECTION FOR WEST SUSSEX.—Richard Prime, Esq., of Walberton, was on Tuesday elected, at Chichester, without opposition, for West Sussex, in the room of Colonel Wyndham. P. Curzon, Esq., proposed Mr. Prime, and his seconder was W. W. Burrell, Esq. Mr. Prime is the Deputy Chairman of the Sussex Quarter Sessions, and Chairman of the Sussex Protection Society.

PRINCE GEORGE OF CAMBRIDGE.—It is reported among the military circles in Dublin that his Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge, K.G. and G.C.M.G., commanding the district, will shortly be appointed to a staff situation in Canada.

THE SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE RAILWAY.—On Monday, at Walsall, the ceremony took place of cutting the first turf of the short line intended to connect the South Staffordshire Railway with the Grand Junction and the London and North Western line. A few weeks ago, the contract for three miles of the work—viz., from Walsall to the Bescott Station—was entered into, the work to be completed about the end of March. Immediately after the above arrangement, the contractor proceeded with the necessary steps for carrying on the work. Monday being appointed for the ceremony, C. S. Forster, Esq., chairman of the company, proceeded, at eleven o'clock, to a field belonging to Mr. R. Dorset, near the New Mills, Walsall, and, in the presence of a great number of the leading men of the town and neighbourhood, and a large concourse of persons, turned up a few turfs.

MORTALITY OF LONDON.—The total number of deaths in the metropolis during the week ending last Saturday, was 1153, being a considerable decrease upon recent returns, and only 85 above the average of the last five winters. The number of births during the week was 1,525—779 males and 746 females.

FIRE IN THAMES-STREET.—Yesterday morning, about half-past two o'clock, a fire, attended with great damage and destruction of property, took place at a cigar manufactory and tobacconist's, opposite the Custom House, Lower Thames-street. With great difficulty the family was made acquainted with their danger; and, by the time the engines were procured, a good supply of water was obtained; but the fire was not extinguished until property to a large extent was destroyed. The proprietor, it is believed, is insured against loss.

MUSIC.

DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

Mr. Travers has more than confirmed the favourable impression he produced on his *début*, noticed in our columns last week. The universal exclamation on hearing him is, "We have a tenor at last," and it is a just conclusion. When it is considered that he has only been studying altogether for the last five years, a more remarkable success has rarely been met with. It is gratifying to learn that he is firmly resolved not to remain quiescent with his present triumphs. The greatest artists in the world, after a brilliant career, have not been ashamed to confess, that at the period when they really knew how to sing, nature was beginning to affect the organ. Mr. Travers has no deficiency of power; but he will have to acquire more flexibility and variety of tone, so as to get rid of a slight monotony in his style. His second performance of *Fernando*, in "The Favorite," was, however, a great improvement on the opening night. There was less apparent strain on the upper notes, and more evenness in their general quality. He will have to avoid the vice of the French school, called the *criard*; and lessons in dramatic action, of an experienced English master, would tend to moderate the exaggeration he has acquired from the Italian stage. The clearness and beauty of his pronunciation are worthy of a Duprez or a Braham, and there can be no higher praise. In the cavatina "Welcome once more to the tranquil cloister," he is nightly encored; and Miss Romer and Mr. Travers, in the powerful duo finale of the last act, create an immense sensation. How the lady singer stands the wear and tear of singing every night, is quite marvellous—she must have a throat of iron—her voice is as fresh and as beautiful as ever; and no part becomes her more than the *Favorite*, in the last scene of which her acting is quite Maribranic. Borroni has also never been more advantageously heard than in this opera—the two last acts of which are the gems of Donizetti.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Henry Phillips's entertainment at the Sussex Hall, in Leadenhall-street, on Monday, was very well attended, and he was encored in several places. He announced that he would soon give the City amateurs "A Night with Dibdin," in consequence of the delight of the company at his vivacious style of singing "Jolly Dick the Lamplighter."

On Tuesday, Messrs. Blagrove, Webb, Weslake, and Hancock, aided by Mr. C. Severn, performed quartets and quintets at the Horn Tavern, Doctors' Commons. The attraction of the Ethiopian Serenaders at the St. James's Theatre continues undiminished. The first meeting of the Amateur Musical Society, at the Music Hall, in Store-street, took place on Friday.

MUSICAL CHIT CHAT.

On Monday next Mr. Dando's second Quartet Concert will be given at Crosby Hall; the second Concert of Ancient English Music at Exeter Hall; and the Annual Concert of Mrs. A. Newton and Mr. G. Case at the London Tavern.

On Tuesday, Mr. Allcroft gives his tenth annual Concert Monstre, at the Lyceum Theatre.

On Wednesday, M^{me}. Dulcken's second Soirée Musicale will take place, and Mrs. W. H. Cope gives her annual concert at the Bridge House Hotel.

In the course of next week, Miss Annie Romer (a sister of Mr. Travers, and a cousin of the Miss Romers) will make her first appearance in *Adelgisa* in "Norma," Miss Bassano enacting the *Druidical Priestess*.

On Monday next, Mr. Bunn opens his theatre, for the benefit of the distressed Irish and Scotch; the receipts will be appropriated, with very slight deductions, as the committee has allowed the use of Drury Lane free of rent, and the *artists* and *employés* give their services gratuitously. Mr. Wilson, the vocalist, has paid over to the Committee, for the aid of the Highlanders, the sum of £85 19s. 6d., the proceeds of his entertainment on Tuesday week.

At the consecration of the beautiful new church of St. Andrew, Wells-street, Oxford-street, by the Bishop of London, a fine performance of old English church music was executed under the direction of Dr. Gauntlett, who presided at the organ; the "Te Deum" was declaimed to the ancient tune, according to a MS. formerly belonging to Norwich Cathedral, and of the date of 1470. The "Jubilate" was sung in unison to a chant of the developed, or festival form. The new organ was built by Messrs. Hill and Co., under the plans of Dr. Gauntlett; it contains a novelty, from being blown on a high pressure of wind, after the manner now universally adopted on the continent. At the evening service, the harmonised ritual music of Tullis, and an Anthem by Redford, a Tudor Quireman, was sung by the same choir, and the Psalms and Prose Hymns to the ancient tones.

The misapplication of the funds bequeathed by General Reid, to establish a Musical Choir in Edinburgh, by the Sonatus, is likely to lead to legal proceedings. The learned Professors have no soul for music, and have refused to pay the expenses of a class room for Professor Donaldson, and the Town Council has taken up the matter. The grant of General Reid might have been of great value for art, but the money has been appropriated illegally there can be no doubt, to other purposes, the motto of the learned doctors being, "Throw music to the dogs—we'll none of it."

Mr. Frederick Webster, the stage manager of the Haymarket Theatre, has been appointed Professor of Elocution in the Royal Academy of Music.

Mr. Sterndale Bennett is about to resume his pianoforte performances, at the Hanover-square Rooms. The first meeting of the Beethoven Quartet Society will take place on Monday, March 8, and be continued every fortnight, alternately with the Philharmonic Society's Concerts; M. Rousselot is the director. He has engaged Herr David (brother of M^{me}. Dulcken), the leader of the Leipzig concerts; M. Sainton, M. Viouxtemps, as violins; Mr. Hill as tenor; and he will play the violoncello. Five performances will complete the fixed programmes of Beethoven, and for the remaining three, there will be selections from Haydn and Mozart. From a communication that has reached us we learn that the Choral Fund will contribute, in addition to £15 per annum to the widow of the late Mr. Kearns, a pension of three shillings and sixpence for each child a-week, making altogether about £60 per annum, derived from this excellent institution. A meeting will take place on Wednesday next, at two P.M., at the Hanover-square Room, Sir George Smart in the chair, to consider the best means of aiding Mrs. Kearns and her large family in their difficulties. Mr. Costa has, in the handsomest manner, consented to officiate as Conductor, if a concert be given. Our attention has also been drawn to a letter of Miss Hawes, in the *Musical Review*, in reference to our notice of the late Mr. Kearns, in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, of January 9. The vocalist declares that her father was her only vocal instructor, and that her instruction from Mr. Kearns was limited to some lessons in *thorough bass*. Miss Hawes has addressed no communication to us on this subject; but, we may explain it was from the late Mr. Hawes himself we understood that it was Mr. Kearns who originally suggested that her organ should be developed as a contralto.

FOREIGN MUSICAL NEWS.

Accounts from Vienna of the 21st ult., state that Madame Schuman, the celebrated pianist (Clara Wieck), had closed a brilliant career in that capital, and was about to make a tour in Bohemia, Prussia, and Saxony. Meyerbeer's "Camp of Silesia" was still in preparation for Jenny Lind. M. Lavigne, the French oboist, had given a concert in Vienna, as also Master and Miss Neruda, the former a violinist, the latter a pianist, both clever children. Blaes, the clarinet player, and Madame Blaes after concerts in Vienna, had departed for Warsaw and Cracow. Balfe's "Bohemian Girl," after its successful production in Vienna and Hamburg, was to be performed at Munich, Brunswick, &c. Döhler, the pianist, was about to leave Moscow for Paris, to resume his professional career, although he has been lately married to a rich and noble lady. Emile Prudent, the pianist, has been creating a sensation at Milan by his performance of Beethoven's music.

The Parisian and Italian journals are in ecstasies with the acting of the celebrated comic buffo, Rovere, at the Scala, in Milan, in Grecco's "La Prova d'un Opera Seria." It is declared that he is second only to the incomparable Lablache in this part. Rovere is engaged at the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden; and Marini, the great basso of serious opera, at the Scala. The *Gazzetta Musicale di Milano*, of the 24th of January, contains an article on the failure of Verdi's "Alzira," at the Scala, despite of the admirable acting of Madame Tadolini, Moriani, and Marini. The critic considers "Alzira" as not inferior to "Attila"—"Attila" to the "Due Foscari"—or the "Foscari" to "Giovanna d'Arco"—"Giovanni" to "Ernani," to the "Lombardi," and to "Nabucco;" but complains of the sameness in Verdi's style. The *Monde Musical* asserts that the infatuation of the Milanese for Verdi has quite gone down. The *France Musicale*, the editors of which have purchased the exclusive right to publish Verdi's works in Paris, stoutly defend the fame of their client, and declare that his "Attila" has been given in forty-two theatres in Italy, and received with enthusiasm. The truth, we suspect, is between these two versions of Verdi's popularity. He is unquestionably a composer of much merit, but he suffers from the indiscretion of his publishers, who strive to make for him a position, which his works of themselves will not earn for him. Madame Tadolini goes to Vienna after she has completed her engagement at the Scala. She will remain in Vienna until the month of November. Madame Frezzolini is engaged until the end of the Carnival in 1848, beginning in Genoa; and from thence she goes to Venice and Trieste, and then returns to Turin. A new one-act opera, called "La Bouquetière," the poem by M. Lucas, and the music by M. Adolphe Adam, was to be produced at the Paris Académie Royale de Musique; M^{lle}. Nau, M. Ponchard, the new tenor, and Brémont, the basso, sustaining the principal parts. The new ballet of "La Taitienne" was in rehearsal, the music by M. Gide. Mozart's "Don Giovanni" was given last Monday, at the Italian Opera, in Paris, for Coletti's benefit, he sustaining the part of the hero; Lablache, Leporello; Mario, Ottavio; Grisi, Persiani, and Corbari, Donna Anna, Zerlina, and Donna Elvira.

On the 20th of January the 25th anniversary of Spohr's nomination as Chapel Master was celebrated at Hesse-Cassel, at the Court Theatre, when fragments of his seven operas, namely, "Azor and Zamira," "Jessonda," "Faust," "Pietro Albano," "The Alchemist," "The Gnome," and "The Crusaders," were performed. On the same evening his Royal Highness the Co-Regent appointed Spohr Director-General of Music, and conferred on him the title of Anlic Councillor, and the King of Prussia sent to him the decoration of the Order of the Red Eagle of the third class.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—We perceive Mr. Allcroft is once more in the field, with his tenth annual benefit Concert for Tuesday next, and from the galaxy of talent he has brought together for the occasion, there can be very little doubt of his success. We need only mention a few of the Artists engaged to give our readers an idea of the musical treat they may anticipate. Mesdames Bassano, Birch, Albertazzi, Lablache, Novello, the Misses Williams, Miss Maria B. Hawes, and a Miss Reynell, who will make her first appearance. Then the Messieurs Harrison, Allan, H. Phillips, Lablache, Henry Russell, Mr. John Parry, and many others, for whose names we must refer our readers to our advertising columns. The solo performers consist of Madame Dulcken, M. Benedict, Grattan Cooke, Harper, F. Chatterton, and Master Thirlwall.

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

BY ALBERT SMITH.

SPECIMEN OF A NEW CHEAP PERIODICAL.

RAPIDITY of travelling and reduction of prices, all over the world, have called into existence a new class of literature. The wonderful quantity to be procured for a penny has spoiled people for giving half-a-crown; and the quick transit from one place to another has rendered articles of the old school comparatively worthless, as, according to the latest estimates, a traveller must go six times between Exeter and Newcastle—the longest continuous journey on the rail at present to be made—to get through an ordinary three volume novel. To meet the times—as the cant phrase now goes for reducing any price that the public will not pay—it is proposed to start *The Decimal Miscellany*; the price being the tenth part of a penny, and the literature that of magazines generally—continuous stories, sketches, and poetry. A little confusion will arise in the brains of the readers from the number of serials; but not much more than is usually the case at present. And the grand feature will be the conciseness of the papers, adapted to the rapidity of locomotion. The following is a specimen number:—

I. TEDDY O'ROURKE, A TALE OF THE REBELLION.

CHAPTER I. Faix; an' if Katty Hooligan wasn't the purtiest lass between Wicklow Mountains and the Hill of Howth may I never have a button-hole to my galligaskins.

"Wishasthree!" said Corney Dwyer, "is it there you are now, Katty? Och! by all de powers, but ye're going after the masther, instead of the man."

And so Katty was, for the Squire was as bowld a gossoon as ever top'd a stone-wall in a steeple-chase. But Corney swore, by the bed of St. Kevin, he'd be even with him.

(To be continued.)

II. A LEGEND OF THE RHINE.

The Baron von Blonderbuntz kept open house at the Katzbangialz. "I love your daughter," said Sir Hildebrand. "You be (something dreadful)d!" said the Baron. That night the fair Lenora fled with her lover, and the stormy Rhine engulfed its victims. The fisherman still hears their shriek at eventide, and the traveller gazes with interest at the ruined keep on the heights of Grabsburgh.

III. TO INEZ. STANZAS FOR MUSIC.

Spring shower, passion flower; heart, apart; bless, caress; mine, thine; only, lonely; sever, ever; devotion, emotion; ever be, but to thee!

V. THE OLDE BOURNE, A ROMANCE OF LONDON IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

CHAPTER I. How Master Winwood Letherby encountered Frank the Prentice, in Chepe.

"Gads! now, by my halidame, forsooth, thou shalt rue this sauncy speech, Sir Knave," cried Master Letherby, drawing his long rapier.

"Gramercy! thou coystrel; out upon the!" replied the Prentice. "I have faced too many swash-bucklers in Finsbury to fear thee, thou sorry wag-halter."

The cressets of the watch were seen approaching as the brawlers crossed their weapons, when the arrival of a third party broke up the contest.

(To be continued in our next.)

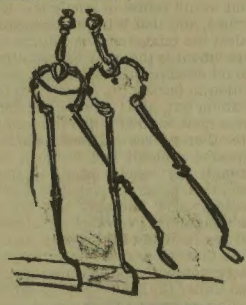
VI.—THE DEAR OLD STOOL.—VERSES.

I love it, though many may call me a fool,
But my heart-strings are tied round that dear old stool;
The seat of my boyhood, in days of my school,
I cling to that three-legg'd and rickety stool;
And never the ardent affection shall cool
That winds round each leg of that dear old stool.

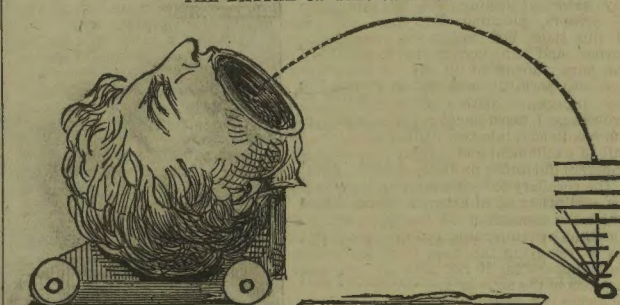
VII.—AN EXCURSION TO BUNDELAJUG. BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE JUGGERNAUTH AND THE JUNGLE."

We left Biddygobang in a musnud hired for the occasion, and, passing swarms of alligators, got to Chokedaw at night, when we lighted our raggermajams, and a supper of hot rumshoodra was soon smoking on the buddles. The next day we returned to Zib-bedeohy Jullock's hospitable crowsy.

This will show how much condensation will effect, in space and price. Illustrations will be given from time to time, which will tell their own tale—such as



THE BATTLE OF THE OPERAS.



LUMLEY'S MONSTER MORTAR.

The "Battle of Life" between Bow-street and the Haymarket is progressing fiercely, and each party is confident of success. The Haymarket depends upon its *basso monstre*, the throat of which has the power of throwing off notes which usually burst on a house with terrific effect. At either place, the intelligent assistant, who gives the tone to the audience, by directing



THE MASKED BOUQUET BATTERY.

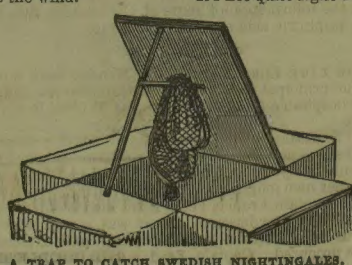
is in constant practice, and he can now aim with unerring precision. Meanwhile, the following Song has been altered from an Ethiopian Serenade:—

JENNY LIND.—A BALLAD.

To the popular Air of "Mary Blane."

I once engaged a singing girl,
And prized her as my life;
We signed and sealed at Berlin,
And I made the rumours rise.
To home I came so happily,
And thought the girl I'd pinn'd,
Till in the spring-time of the year
I lost my Jenny Lind.
Oh! fare thee well, sly Jenny Lind,
No feeling heart belongs to you;
Oh! fare thee well, sly Jenny Lind,
You're feeble as the wind.

While talking with press-lifted stars
Who nightly houses thinn'd,
The other came, and from my troupe
He stole deep Jenny Lind.
It grieves me very much to think
The nightingale has sinned;
But what the deuce am I to do,
If sold by Jenny Lind.
Oh! fare thee well, deep Jenny Lind,
I certainly believed you true.
Oh! fare thee well, deep Jenny Lind,
It's not quite right of you.



A TRAP TO CATCH SWEDISH NIGHTINGALES.

THE WEATHER.

The past week has been dull, and at times very gloomy; the sky has been generally covered by cloud, and the air hazy, and nearly at all times saturated with moisture. Thursday, Jan. 28, the wind blew strongly from the S.W.; there were occasional showers of rain during the day, and the evening was cloudless; its average temperature was 35°. Friday was dull and cloudy till evening; its average temperature was 36°. Saturday was cloudy till afternoon; its average temperature was 35½°. Sunday was a gloomy day, the sky being generally overcast; its average temperature was 33°. Monday, February 1st, was a cold dull day, and, with the exception of the clouds being a little broken at about noon, the sky was cloudy throughout; its average temperature was 31½°. Tuesday was a cold day, a keen north wind was blowing, snow was falling frequently throughout the day; its average temperature was 32½°. Wednesday was a dull, cloudy day; rain was frequently falling; its average temperature was 32½°. The average temperature of the week has been 34½°, being 5° colder than that of the preceding week. The amount of rain fallen during the month of January was 1½ inches. The following are the extreme thermometrical readings taken each day:—

Thursday, Jan. 28, the highest reading was 44 deg. the lowest was 33½ deg.	
Friday, Jan. 29	41
Saturday, Jan. 30	40
Sunday, Jan. 31	41
Monday, Feb. 1	36
Tuesday, Feb. 2	36
Wednesday, Feb. 3	35½

Blackheath, Thursday, Feb. 4, 1847. J. G.
Erratum.—In the report for last week, the lowest on Jan. 27, for 35 deg., read 45 deg.

INHALATION OF ETHER.

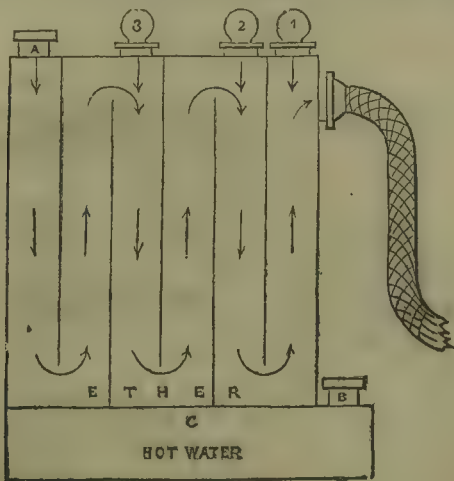
(From a Correspondent.)

This most remarkable and providential gift to humanity is now occupying so much of public attention, that I am induced to send you a few remarks, which I hope may assist to develop its perfect application; these being deduced from an experiment which accidentally occurred to myself.

I commenced my experiment by testing several of the Inhalers advertised, when, to my great surprise, I found I could not even inspire the cold mixture. The proportion of Ether appeared so great, and produced such a violent fit of coughing, accompanied with a sense of suffocation, that I immediately concluded the application of hot water, to promote evaporation, as totally absurd, and resolved at once to adopt the advice of an eminent practitioner, viz., to dilute the Ether vapour, rather than promote its activity by the application of heat. I afterwards repeated the same experiment, under the same circumstances, on a robust person about twenty years old, and found the same strength of mixture which produced suffocation with me was inhaled by him without the least inconvenience. After one minute he was seized with a fit of laughter, clapping his hands together at the same time, in the most violent manner, precisely as though he had been under the influence of nitrous oxide, or laughing gas; indeed, his manner was altogether so extravagant and ludicrous, that several gentlemen present believed it to be affectation, and regarded him as a clever impostor.

The next experiment was again on myself, with what I would term the *Graduated or Dose Inhaler*. With this instrument I was enabled to inspire, at the commencement, air without any mixture of Ether vapour: afterwards the Ether was allowed to mix gradually with the air until I was inhaling the same strength of mixture without difficulty which, in the first instance, produced all the sensation of choking and suffocation. I deduce from this part of the experiment that no patient would refuse to inhale the Ether, if it were administered as I have described, and that it is quite impossible for persons with delicate lungs to take it unless the mixture is very dilute to commence with. The remaining part of the experiment is the most extraordinary, inasmuch as it was purely accidental. I should observe that when I sat down to inhale the Ether I had not the least intention to pursue the experiment further than testing it under several degrees of dilution, but, alas! when I had arrived to that part of the experiment described, I was spell-bound: I had imbibed the fascinating draught and was transported into other worlds. Hitherto the inhalation, although by no means disagreeable, appeared difficult and hurried, until I experienced a sensation stealing softly through my whole frame of the most ecstatic and indescribable pleasure. From this point the inhalation was no longer difficult, but appeared to be exceedingly slow and easy, and full of harmony; the mind was filled with exquisite imaginings; in short, it appeared as though the gross or material element had lost its hold of the senses, and had left them unfettered to the full enjoyment of all that the nervous or sensitive part of man is susceptible. This attempt at description will not be considered ridiculous or extravagant by those who have been under the influence of laughing gas. In one of the Magazines, I recollect reading an extract from a work entitled "The Opium Eater." The feelings and sensations there so powerfully portrayed, are an exact parallel, and were recalled to my mind whilst under the influence of the Ether. I am informed that my sense of feeling was at this period tested with the point of a pair of scissors, pinching, &c., &c. But what is worthy of remark is, that at this stage hot water was constantly applied to the Inhaler all over its surface, and being constructed in metal, I must at this time have inhaled almost the pure vapour of Ether. I was under its influence a considerable time, and was perfectly sensible of the least change in the quantity or quality of my draught. With the exception of a slight sensation of sickness and drowsiness I experienced no after inconvenience. The period of influence with me was divided into two distinct parts: the first somewhat resembling intoxication full of excitement and activity; the second, the most delicious contentment and apparent quietude; probably the next state is torpor or total insensibility to pain.

The corollary to be drawn from these experiments, I again repeat, viz., that, in the administering of Ether, a *Graduated or Dose Inhaler* must be employed, by which the strength of the dose may, with facility, be adapted at any instant to the condition or temperament of the person to be operated upon, without the necessity of removing the tube from the mouth of the patient; and that the hot water apparatus, if not actually necessary in every case, is certainly useful to promote the activity and strength of the dose, when it may be required. The following is a diagram of an Inhaler, manufactured at 201, Strand. It is extremely beautiful in theory, and appears to possess all the necessary qualities:—



THE GRADUATED-DOSE INHALER.

The Inhaler is constructed in metal, and is divided into two chambers; the upper one to contain the Ether, and the lower one to contain warm water. The Ether chamber is divided by diaphragms into several cells; the intention of these divisions is to cause the air, which enters at A, to perform the long route indicated by the arrows, that it may be perfectly saturated with Ether before it leaves the Inhaler.

The figures 1, 2, 3, on the top of the Inhaler, indicate several openings for the entrance of air; it is by these openings that the strength of the dose is graduated. For example, if No. 1 is open, the air, entering at that point, will be in contact with only a small portion of the Ether vapour; No. 2, being opened, will produce a stronger mixture; No. 3, still stronger, &c.; until, all being closed, with the exception of A, we then have the most powerful dose that can be had, without the assistance of heat.

In addition to this arrangement, a stop cock is so constructed, and adapted to the tube, that the Ether can, at any time, be turned off, and the air turned on, or any proportion of each. This is a most valuable addition, since it gives the operator a perfect command over the power of the instrument, without, in any degree, disturbing the patient.

The details I have given will trespass considerably on your valuable space, but I hope the importance of the subject is a sufficient apology.

INHALER.

We may add for the information of some of our readers, that Ether is distilled from a mixture of sulphuric acid and spirits of wine.

BANQUET TO THE LATE LORD MAYOR.—On Monday next, a banquet is to be given by some of the principal residents of Westminster to Alderman Johnson, the late active and hospitable Chief Magistrate, at Willis's Rooms, the Hon. Mr. Talbot in the chair.

THE "SPHYNX" STEAMER.—The endeavours to get this vessel off shore have hitherto failed, and she is now left in the same position as when she first struck, the officers and men employed having, by prodigious exertion, succeeded in dragging her out about her own length.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Captain Francis Fead, R.N., died suddenly at his residence in Woolwich on Sunday. The deceased officer was seated at breakfast with his family, when he was seized with a fit of apoplexy, and expired before medical assistance could be procured. Captain Fead was a Justice of the Peace for the county of Kent.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—JUDGMENT OF THE QUEEN'S BENCH REVERSED.—The Judges in the Court of Exchequer on Tuesday gave their decision in the well-known case of Howard v. Gossett, the argument in which, after various adjournments, was concluded last term. It will be remembered that it was an appeal by Sir Wm. Gossett, the Sergeant-at-Arms, of the House of Commons, the plaintiff in error, against the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench, in the case of "Howard v. Gossett," in which that Court decided that the House of Commons, from the informality of the warrant, had no right to imprison the plaintiff; and that the defendant, Sir Wm. Gossett, had acted illegally in taking Mr. Howard into custody. The Court now gave judgment on the writ of error, holding that the House of Commons, as one of the High Courts of Parliament, had perfect right to act in matters affecting its own privileges, and was not bound to state on the face of the warrant to the Sergeant-at-Arms all the formalities required in a warrant issued by an inferior Court. The superior Courts of Law of England exercised this right; and their Lordships were, therefore, of opinion that the House of Commons had an equal right to take and keep in custody any person the House might consider to be guilty of contempt. The Speaker's warrant was sufficient authority for that purpose. In the course of the argument, it had been urged, by the counsel in behalf of the defendant in error, that the possession of such a power by one branch of the Legislature might be greatly abused, without any remedy for such abuse. It might undoubtedly be abused; but the case was precisely similar with the authority reposed in the superior Courts of Law. It must be presumed that the exercise of the power would be properly directed; and that should any undue exercise of that power occur, that the good sense of the House would afford redress, as in the practice of the superior Courts. The decision of the Court of Queen's Bench must, therefore, be reversed.

MR. WAKLEY AND THE "MEDICAL TIMES."—In the BAIL COURT on Wednesday, judgment was given in the case of the Queen on the prosecution of T. Wakley, Esq., M.P., v. Cooke. Lord Denman stated that the prosecutor had applied for a rule for a criminal information against the publisher of the *Medical Times* for certain alleged libels upon him in his capacity of Coroner during the investigation relative to the soldier White, who was flogged to death. The charges made were of a serious nature no doubt. The only question, however, for that Court to consider was whether or not the Coroner had, by some proceedings of his own, precluded himself from obtaining the interposition of the Court in his favour. The Noble Lord then proceeded to detail the circumstances of the case, and said that Mr. Wakley had himself taken a course which gave rise to the opinion that his zeal had affected his conduct in the inquiry, and given rise to the reflection that he was eager to find proofs and pretences for the jury to censure the conduct which he himself condemned. The Court was bound to say that it was not unreasonable to put this construction on his conduct. The Court gave him full credit for the sincerity of his opinion, and its justice was in a strong degree proved by the fact that it had been adopted by the State since that time. But if that opinion led to any influence on his conduct as Coroner, induced him to exclude evidence, and to utter censures, and to do those things which there was no doubt had been done in this case, their Lordships did not think that he was in a state to ask them to sanction proceedings which were unfortunately erroneous; and, therefore, in the exercise of their duty in these circumstances, they thought it right to say that the rule must be discharged.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The fresh arrivals of English wheat since Monday have been but small, and the market is very much supplied with supplies of both red and white, a large number of which was the refuse of Wednesday. All kinds met a very dull sale, and clearances could not be effected without giving way somewhat in value. Scarcely any foreign wheat found buyers, owing to the firmness of the holders. In prices we can notice no alteration. The demand for barley—the supply of which was small—was firm, and previous sales were well supported. We had a very dull sale for malt, but, as there was no pressure on the market, the downward tendency was not extensive. Oats moved off steadily, at full prices, but beans, peas, and flour were a mere drizzle.

ARRIVALS.—English: Wheat, 6450; barley, 6860; malt, 6840; oats, 8020. Irish: Wheat, —; barley, —; malt, —; oats, —. Foreign: Wheat, 2470; barley, 2970; malt, —; oats, 2540.

Wheat.—Four: 2220 sacks, 14,790 barrels. English: White, 44s to 46s; red, 44s to 46s; ditto white, 72s to 81s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 67s to 72s; ditto white, 72s to 77s; rye, 45s to 55s; grinding barley, 40s to 45s; distilling, 50s to 53s; malted ditto, 55s to 60s; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 70s to 75s; brown ditto, 74s to 78s; Kingston and Ware, 72s to 80s; Chevalier, 80s to 85s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 34s to 38s; potato ditto, 40s to 45s; Troughal and Cork, black, —s to —s; ditto white, 38s to 42s; rye, 44s to 48s; ditto white, 34s to 38s; grey peas, 51s to 53s; mangel, 52s to 54s; white, 54s to 55s; bollocks, 53s to 54s; per quarter. Town-made flour, 60s to 65s; Suffolk, 55s to 56s; Stockton and Yorkshire, 53s to 54s, per 280 lbs. Foreign: Free wheat, —s to —s; Danzig, red, 70s to 77s; ditto white, 70s to 79s per quarter. In Bond: Barley, —s to —s; oats, new, —s to —s; ditto feed, —s to —s; and peas, —s to —s per quarter. Flour, American, 40s to 45s per barrel.

The Seed Market.—There is a fair amount of business doing in Linseed as well as cakes, at full prices. Canary has advanced 2s per quarter, and the value of Clover-seed is firmly supported. All other seeds command very little attention.

Linseed.—English, sowing, 57s to 61s; Baltic, crushing, 53s to 54s; Mediterranean and Odessa, 52s to 54s. Hempseed, 58s to 60s per quarter. Coriander, 12s to 15s per cwt. Brown Mustard-seed, 10s to 12s; white ditto, 8s to 9s. Tares, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per bushel. English Rapeseed, 227 to 238 per last of ten tenners. Linseed cakes, English, 113s 10s to 113 13s; ditto, foreign, 118s 10s to 121s 10s per 1000; Rapeseed cakes, 55s 12s to 55 17s per ton. Canary, 57s to 63s per quarter. English Clover-seed, red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, up to —s. Foreign, red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s per cwt. The price of wheaten bread in the metropolis is from 9½d to 10½d; of household ditto, 8d to 9d per 4½ lb loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 74s 11d; barley, 55s 11d; oats, 32s 2d; rye, 55s 3d; beans, 52s 7d; peas, 56s 8d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 68s 7d; barley, 49s 0d; oats, 29s 1d; rye, 49s 0d; beans, 48s 6d; peas, 52s 4d.

The Duties on Foreign Corn are now suspended.

Tea.—This article is commanding very little attention, yet prices rule as last advised.

Sugar.—All kinds of raw sugar are in very inactive request, at a further decline in the quotations of from 6d to 1s per cwt. Refined goods dull, and 1s to 2s lower. Brown lumps, 67s to 68s; and white, 68s to 69s per cwt. English butter is very dull, and 1s to 2s lower.

Coffee.—There is a fair amount of business doing in this market, and prices are well supported.

Rice.—All kinds are heavy, and 6d to 1s per cwt. cheaper.

Provisions.—The best parcels of Irish butter move off steadily, at full prices; but all other kinds are a mere drizzle. Caviar, landed, 90s to 95s; Cornish, 90s to 92s; Limburg, 80s to 85s; and Waterford, 78s to 80s per cwt. English butter is very dull, and 1s to 2s lower. Fine Dorset, 102s to 104s; middling ditto, 90s to 95s per cwt; fresh, 11s to 13s per dozen lbs. Bacon is a dull sale. Waterford, sizeable, 64s to 65s; and prime heavy, 63s to 64s per cwt. Lard steady, at late rates. All other kinds of provisions are dull. The demand for all kinds of cheese is very limited, yet prices are pretty generally supported.

American in request. Double Gloucester, 52s to 54s; single ditto, 52s to 54s; Cheshire, 56s to 58s; Derby, 58s to 60s; American, 52s to 54s; and Edan and Gonda, 45s to 50s per cwt. **Tallow.**—In this market, comparatively little business is doing, and prices are not supported. P.Y.C. on the spot is selling at 51s to 51s 3d; and, for delivery up to March, 51s 6d per cwt. Town tallow, 50s 3d to 50s 6d per cwt.

Oils.—We have no alteration to notice in this market, which may be considered steady.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, 22s to 23 15s; clover ditto, 23s to 24 15s; and straw, 11s to 12 15s per load.

Rum.—There is a fair business doing in most qualities, at last week's prices.

Wool.—Privately, only a limited business is passing in most descriptions. In prices, we have no alteration to report.

Potatoes.—The best qualities are selling as high as £12 per ton; but the trade, from want of supply, is heavy.

Coals (Friday).—Taylor's West Hartley, 17s 6d; Bell and Brown, 20s 6d; Elm Park, 19s; Wharfedale, 20s 6d; Lambton, 22s 9d; Stewart's, 23s; and Adelaide Tees, 22s 9d per ton. Upwards of 700 ships have appeared at market this week.

Hops (Friday).—There is rather an inquiry for the best hops, both in pockets and bags, and the prices of these are steadily supported. In all other kinds of hops next to nothing is doing, at barely late rates, Sussex pockets, 24s to 24 10s; Weald of Kent ditto, 24s to 24 10s; Mid and East Kent ditto, 24s 12s to 25 16s per cwt.

Smithfield (Friday).—The supply of beasts here this morning being small, and the dead markets well cleared of their late arrivals, we have to report, trifling improvement in the best trade at fully, but at nothing quotable beyond, Monday's prices. There were on offer 110 oxen and cows, 310 sheep, and 7 calves from Holland, in good condition. Nearly the whole of the sheep on sale were the refuse of Monday's supply. There was a better feeling in the demand for that description of stock, at extreme currencies. The veal trade was firm, and some of the prime calves produced 5s 6d per 8lb. Pigs were in short supply, and steady demand, at full prices. Mutton-cows were very dull, at from 21s to 21s 6d, including their small calf.

Per 8lb. to sink the Mutton: Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; second quality ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; prime large oxen, 3s 10d to 4s 0d; prime Scots, &c., 4s 2d to 4s 4d; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; second quality ditto, 4s 0d to 4s 2d; prime coarse-wooled ditto, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; prime South Down ditto, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; large coarse calves, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; prime small ditto, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; large hogs, 3s 8d to 4s 0d; neat small porkers, 4s 8d to 5s 0d. Suckling calves, 18s to 20s; and quarter old store pigs, 16s to 18s each. Beasts, 61s; cows, 14d; sheep, 20p; calves, 12p; pigs, 29p.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—The supply of meat on sale to-day being but moderate, the general demand was steady, at prices as follows: Beef, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; middling ditto, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; prime large ditto, 3s 0d to 3s 2d; prime small ditto, 3s 1d to 3s 3d; large pork, 3s 4d to 4s 4d; inferior mutton, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; middling ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; prime ditto, 4s 0d to 4s 4d; veal, 4s 4d to 5s 4d; small pork, 4s 6d to 4s 10d.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The Money Market has been rather tighter during the week, and a further rise in the rate by the Directors of the Bank of England was considered highly probable. Thursday's court, however, passed off without any change. The exchanges have slightly varied in favour of this country on both past days, but while the rate of money in Paris and Hamburg continues so much in advance of the rate here, a further increase in the Bank of England rate may be confidently anticipated.

There have been constant fluctuations in the prices of the English Funds during the week. Consols, on Monday, were done as high as 91½, closing at 91 to 1. On Tuesday 91 was the closing quotation, and although on Wednesday and Thursday a higher quotation was attained, it is the last price. Bank Stock has declined, from a belief that although the prudence of raising the rate of Discount cannot be questioned, yet it is anything but a profitable measure as far as the interests of the Bank are concerned, in consequence of its so materially affecting the Discount department, money being cheaper at the leading brokers. Reduced advanced a point on Wednesday, the Government broker having purchased on behalf of the Savings' Banks and Life Annuities, which also gave a slight impulse to the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents. Exchequer Bills continue heavy, and dealings in them on the most limited scale; an advance in the rate of interest will, doubtless, take place in March if not earlier. The Market closes heavily at the following quotations:—Bank Stock, 203½; Reduced, 91; Consols, 91½; New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent. Annuities, 93½; Long Annuities, 93; Ditto, 30 years, 93; Ditto, 30 years, 9 5-16; India Stock, 251; Consols for Account, 91½; Exchequer Bills, 6.

Prices were heavy, and the tendency was downward, in the Foreign Market on Monday. Mexican, decided about ½ per cent., closing at 22 to 1. Spanish also declined about ½ per cent., closing at 24 to 1 for the Five per Cents.; Three per Cents., 34 to 36. Portuguese, fell to 34 to 36. On Tuesday, a slight improvement occurred, and the Market was firmer; but Wednesday's business was so limited, that no important variations were marked. Thursday's market was rather better; but prices drooped towards the close. At the end of the week,

Brazilian Bonds marked 84½; Mexican Bonds, 1846, for the Account, 22½; Peruvian Bonds, Six per Cent., 39½; Portuguese Bonds, for Account, 34½; Russian Bonds, 112½; Spanish Bonds, Five per Cent., 24½; Ditto, Three per Cent., 34½; Venezuela Bonds, Two per Cent., 38½; Belgian, Four-and-a-Half per Cent., 94½; Dutch, Two-and-a-Half per Cent., 58½; Ditto, Four per Cent. Certificates, 92.

The Share Market has been depressed, with an occasional revival for a short time, when appearances were favourable in the English Funds. Prices, however, mark widely, and sales are only effected at figures lower than the average quotations. The state of the market may be judged of by the closing list, subjoined:—Aberdeen, 23½; Birmingham and Gloucester, 126½; Birmingham and Oxford Junction, 13½; Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Dudley, 54 pm; Boston, Stamford, and Birmingham, 4 pm; Bristol and Exeter, New, 12½; Bristol and Gloucester, 51; Eastern Counties, 22; Ditto, New, 21½; Ditto, York Extension, 41; East Lancashire, New Scrip, 2½; East Lincolnshire, 61; Ely and Huntingdon, 14; Great Northern (London and York Regd), 2½; Great North of England, 237; Ditto, New, 59½; Great Western, Half Shares, 73; Ditto, Quarter Shares, 19½; Ditto, Fifths, 29½; Ditto, New, 9; Lancaster and Carlisle, New, 8½; Leeds and Bradford, 81½; Leeds, Dewsbury, and Manchester, Half Shares, 10; Leeds and Thirsk, 19½; Ditto, Preference 6 per Cent., 4½; Liverpool, Manchester, and Newcastle Junction, 24; London, Brighton, and S. Coast, 55½; London and North-Western, 191; Ditto ditto, New Shares, 14½; Ditto, £40 Shares M. and B., 73½; London and North-Western, 64½; Ditto, Tenth, 5½; Lynn and Ely, 2½; Lynn and Dereham, 16½; Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, ½ pm; Manchester and Southampton, 16; Midland, 124; Ditto, New, 35½; Ditto, New, 5½; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 99; Ditto, New-castle and Derwick, 32½; Northern Counties Union, 1½; North British, 34½; Ditto, Half Shares, 16½; Ditto, Thirds, 34; North Staffordshire 8; North Western, 3; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 11½; Reading, Guildford, and Reigate, 34; Royston and Hitchin, 2½; Scottish Central, 21½; Scottish Midland, 20½; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 4; Ditto Class B, 18; South Devon, 33; South Eastern and Dover, 37; South Wales, 7; South Yorkshire, Doncaster, and Goolse, 2; Waterford and Kilkenny, 5½; West Riding Union, 18 pm; York and New-castle New, 12½; Ditto Preference, 7; York and North Midland Half Shares, 45½; Ditto Selby, 90; Ditto Preference, 12; Ditto East and West Riding Extension, 17; Boulogne and Amiens, 12½; Namur and Liege, 2½; Northern of France, 12; Paris and Lyons, 7½; Paris and Rouen, 7½; Rouen and Havre, 26½; Tours and Nantes, 3½.

SATURDAY MORNING.—The English market was quiet yesterday, with a very limited amount of transactions. Consols closed at 91 to 1 for money and account. In the Foreign house, Mexican improved to 23. The Share market remained at about previous prices.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, FEB. 2.

OFFICE OF ORDINANCE, FEB. 1.

Royal Artillery: Second Capt. J. F. Cater to be Adjutant, vice Nedham.
Corps of Royal Engineers: Capt. Albert Baker, to be Captain, vice Alderson; Colonel, vice Gossett; Second Capt. and Brevet Major J. Lynn to be Captain, vice Alderson; First Lieut. H. A. White to be Second Captain, vice Lynn; Second Lieut. L. Nicholson to be First Lieutenant, vice White.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

J. and G. HARDY, Wisbech St. Peter, Cambridgehire, grocers.
J. MOSS, Liverpool-buildings, Blakeney, City, to be liquidator, C. P. SMYRK, Lavender-grove, Wharfedale, Middlesex, builder. J. PRIOR, St. Blazey, Cornwall, tailor, and T. BAILEY, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, printer. J. KIRKMAN, Nottingham, wine-merchant. T. SKIPWORTH, Belton, Lincolnshire, miller. H. JOHNSON, Sheffield, merchant. E. SMITH, Dursley, Gloucestershire, apothecary.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.

A. WATSON, Montrose, W. LANDELL, Flours, Berwickshire, farmer. J. R. HOOD, Edinburgh, draper.

FRIDAY, FEB. 5.

SHERIFFS APPOINTED BY HER MAJESTY IN COUNCIL, FOR THE YEAR 1847.

Bedfordshire—Robert Newland, of Kempston, Esq.
Berkshire—William Henry Stone, of Stratford House, Esq.
Berkshire—The Baron Meyer Anselme de Rothschild, of Mentmore.
Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire—Robert Francis Pate, of Wisbech, Esq.
Cumberland—Gulfrid William Hartley, of Rose Hill, Esq.
Cumbria—Ralph Gerard Lyster, of Rort Hall, Esq.
Derbyshire—John Bull, of Crompton, M.D., Esq.
Devonshire—Henry Champenowne, of Dartington, Esq.
Dorsetshire—Thomas Bowyer Bower, of Iwerne Minster, Esq.
Durham—John Fawcett, of North Bailey, Esq.
Essex—William Coxhead Marsh, of Park Hall, Thoydon Garmon, Epping, Esq.
Gloucestershire—Thomas Barwick Lloyd Baker, of Hardwick Court, Esq.
Herefordshire—Sir Velters Cornwall, of Moccas, Esq.
Hertfordshire—Hamphrey Harper Burchell, of Bushey Grange, Esq.
Kent—John Pelly Atkins, of Halstead, Esq.
Leicestershire—William Wootton Abney, of Swepstone, Esq.
Lincolnshire—Theophilus Fairfax Johnson, of Spalding, Esq.
Monmouthshire—William Mark Wood, of Ilkenny, Esq.
Norfolk—Sir Jacob Henry Preston, of Beeston St. Lawrence, Bart.
Northamptonshire—Thomas Tryon, of Bulwick Park, Esq.
Northumberland—James Henry Hollis Arcton, of Angerton, Esq.
Nottinghamshire—John Vere, of Cuckney-upon-Trent, Esq.
Oxfordshire—Henry Baskerville, of Crowley Park, Henley-on-Thames, Esq.
Rutlandshire—Richard Lucas, of Edith Weston, Esq.
Shropshire—Joseph Venables Lovett, of Belmont, Esq.
Somersetshire—John Matthew Quantock, of Norton-sub-IHamdon, Esq.
Staffordshire—Sir Edward Delmain Scott, of Great Barr, Bart.
County of Southampton—Lancelot Archer Burton, of Woodlands Emsworth, Esq.
Suffolk—Henry James Oakes, of Newton Court, Esq.
Surrey—Joseph Bonsor, of Poulton, Esq.
Sussex—William George Kinsley Grattwick, of Ham, Esq.
Warwickshire—George Whieldon, of Springfield House, Esq.
Wiltshire—Wadhwa Locke, of Ashton, Gifford House, Esq.
Worcestershire—Edward Grealy Stone, of Chambers Court, Esq.
Yorkshire—Joseph Dent, of Ribston Park, Esq.

WALES.

Anglesey—The Right Hon. Spencer Bulkeley Lord Newborough, of Treldion.
Breconshire—Rhys Davies, of Trevelyn, Esq.
Carmarthenshire—Thomas Wright, of Derwenfawr, Esq.
Carmarthenshire—Sir James Cockburn, of Idolgwyn, Bart.
Cardiganshire—Matthew Davies, of Tanybwlch, Esq.
Denbighshire—Richard Lloyd Edwards, of Bronhaugol, Abergele, Esq.
Gloucestershire—Llewellyn Edwards, of Llanidloes, Nantwich, Esq.
Glamorganshire—Nash Vaughan Edwards Vaughan, of Rhaeadr, Esq.
Montgomeryshire—John Griffith Griffith, of Faltreuddyn-fawr, Esq.
Merionethshire—John Griffith Griffith, of Faltreuddyn-fawr, Esq.
Pembrokeshire—William Henry Lewis, of Clyffnew, Esq.
Radnorshire—Henry Miles, of Downfield, Esq.

At the Court at Windsor, the 4th day of February, 1847, present, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council, her Majesty having been pleased to appoint Edward Vaughan Watkins, Esq., to be Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the County of Brecon, he this day took the oaths appointed to be taken thereupon, instead of the oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy.

Her Majesty in Council was this day pleased, upon the representation of the Right Hon. the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education, to appoint Edward Vaughan Watkins, Esq., to be Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the County of Brecon, he this day took the oaths appointed to be taken thereupon, instead of the oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy.

DUCY OF LANCASTER, FEB. 4.

The Queen has been this day pleased to appoint William Gale, of Lighthouse House, Ulverston, Esq., to be Sheriff of the county palatine of Lancaster for the year ensuing.

WHITEHALL, FEB. 3.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Doctor William Pulteney Alison to be First Physician to her Majesty in Scotland, in the room of Doctor J. Henry Davidson, deceased.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Doctor Robert Christison to be one of her Majesty's Physicians in Ordinary in Scotland.

The Queen has also been pleased to appoint Doctor James Young Simpson to be Physician Accoucheur to her Majesty in Scotland.

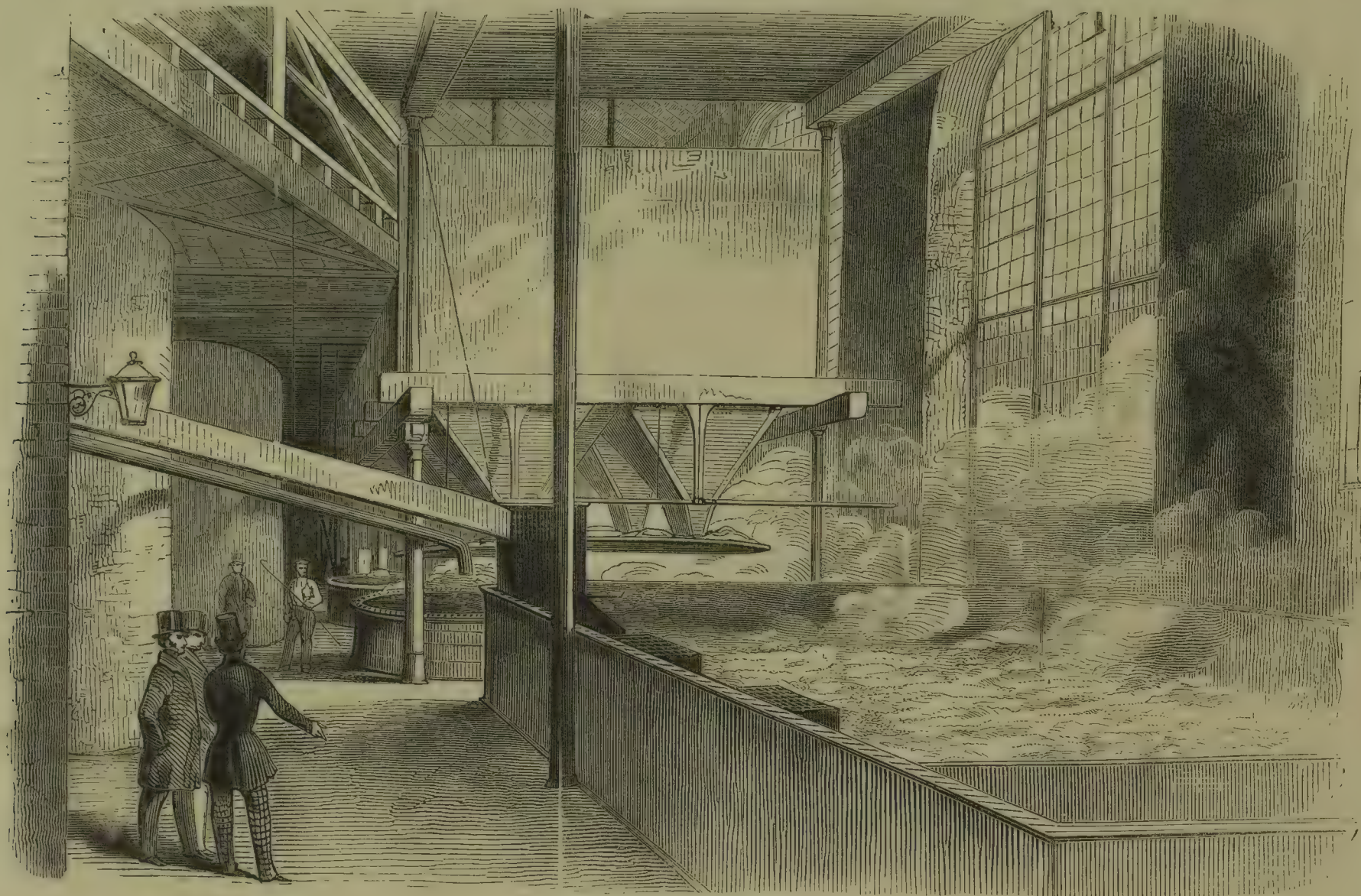
FOREIGN OFFICE, JAN. 25.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Charles Frederick Rothery, Esq., in the room of Henry William Macaulay, Esq., deceased, to be her Majesty's Commissioner in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established at the island of Boa Vista (one of the Cape de Verde Islands), under the treaty between Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the slave trade, signed at Lisbon, on the 3rd of July, 1812.

WAR-OFFICE, FEB. 5.

Royal Regiment of Horse Guards: Lieut. Lord G.

A VISIT TO MESSRS. BARCLAY AND PERKINS'S BREWERY.



PORTION OF THE GREAT BREWHOUSE.

ONE of the "Privileged Sights" of the metropolis is a visit of inspection to the vast Brewery of Messrs. Barclay, Perkins, and Company, in Southwark, which we may characterise as the largest establishment of its class in the kingdom, or indeed, in the world. By a "privileged sight," we mean that it can only be enjoyed by a letter of introduction, and as a privilege granted by their courtesy; and a large proportion of the foreigners of distinction who visit London avail themselves of such permission to inspect the gigantic Brewery. Thus, among recent entries in the visitors' book, kept at the counting-house, we find the names of Ibrahim Pacha, and Prince Louis Napoleon Bonaparte; both of whom were highly gratified with what they here saw of the vastness of individual enterprise in this country. In the travelled sight-lover, it invariably excites wonder at its extent, and admiration of its completeness; and even the indweller of London, surrounded with her splendour, never fails, on visiting the Brewery, to be impressed with what Dr. Johnson called "the potentiality of

growing rich beyond the dream of avarice." As evidence of our metropolitan greatness, we have deemed this vast establishment entitled to illustration in our pages; and there are some incidental circumstances connected with the manufacture of beer which render the subject of special interest at the present season. We shall, therefore, proceed to submit to the reader the result of our visit to the Brewery, on Tuesday last, accompanied by the artist by whom the sketches for the accompanying Engravings had been previously taken; merely premising that a detailed report of what we there witnessed, would fill several pages; and we are compelled to confine our account to the great scenes, or leading features, of the Establishment.

The Brewery and its appurtenances may be described, generally, as occupying about twelve acres of ground, immediately adjoining Bankside; and extending from the land-arches of Southwark Bridge, nearly half of the distance to those of London Bridge. Within the Brewery walls is included the site of the famous

Globe Theatre, "which Shakspeare has bound so closely up with his own history;" and, in a history of the neighbourhood, dated 1795, it is stated that "the passage which led to the Globe Tavern, of which the playhouse formed a part, was, till within these few years, known by the name of Globe-alley, and upon its site now stands a large storehouse for porter." We are inclined to regard this evidence as traditional. However, the last Globe Theatre was taken down about the time of the Commonwealth; and so late as 1720, Maiden-lane (now called New Park-street), of which Globe-alley was an offshoot, was a long, straggling place, with ditches on each side; the passage to the houses being over little bridges, with little garden-plots before them.—(*Strype's Stow.*)

Early in the last century there was a Brewery here, comparatively very small: it then belonged to a Mr. Halsey, who, on retiring from it with a large fortune, sold it to the elder Mr. Thrale: he became Sheriff of Surrey, and M.P. for Southwark; and died in 1758, leaving his property to a son, the friend of Dr. Johnson,



THE ALE "ROUNDS."

A VISIT TO MESSRS. BARCLAY AND PERKINS'S BREWERY.



STORE VATS.

who, from 1765 to the brewer's death, lived at the Brewery, and at his villa at Streatham. "Before the fire at the Brewery, in 1832, the room was pointed out, near the gate, in which the Doctor wrote many of his most celebrated works, more particularly his Dictionary." In 1781, Mr. Thrale died; and as he had no sons, his executors, of whom Dr. Johnson was one, sold the Brewery jointly to Mr. Barclay and Mr. Perkins, (the latter of whom had been the superintendent of the Brewery,) for the sum of £135,000! and the property is now held by the descendants of those gentlemen. The concern in Thrale's time must have been comparatively small; for he did not brew annually more than one-twelfth part of the quantity now brewed by the same establishment. Nevertheless, we remember it of considerably less extent, about thirty years since. In 1832, a great portion of the old premises was destroyed by fire; they were re-

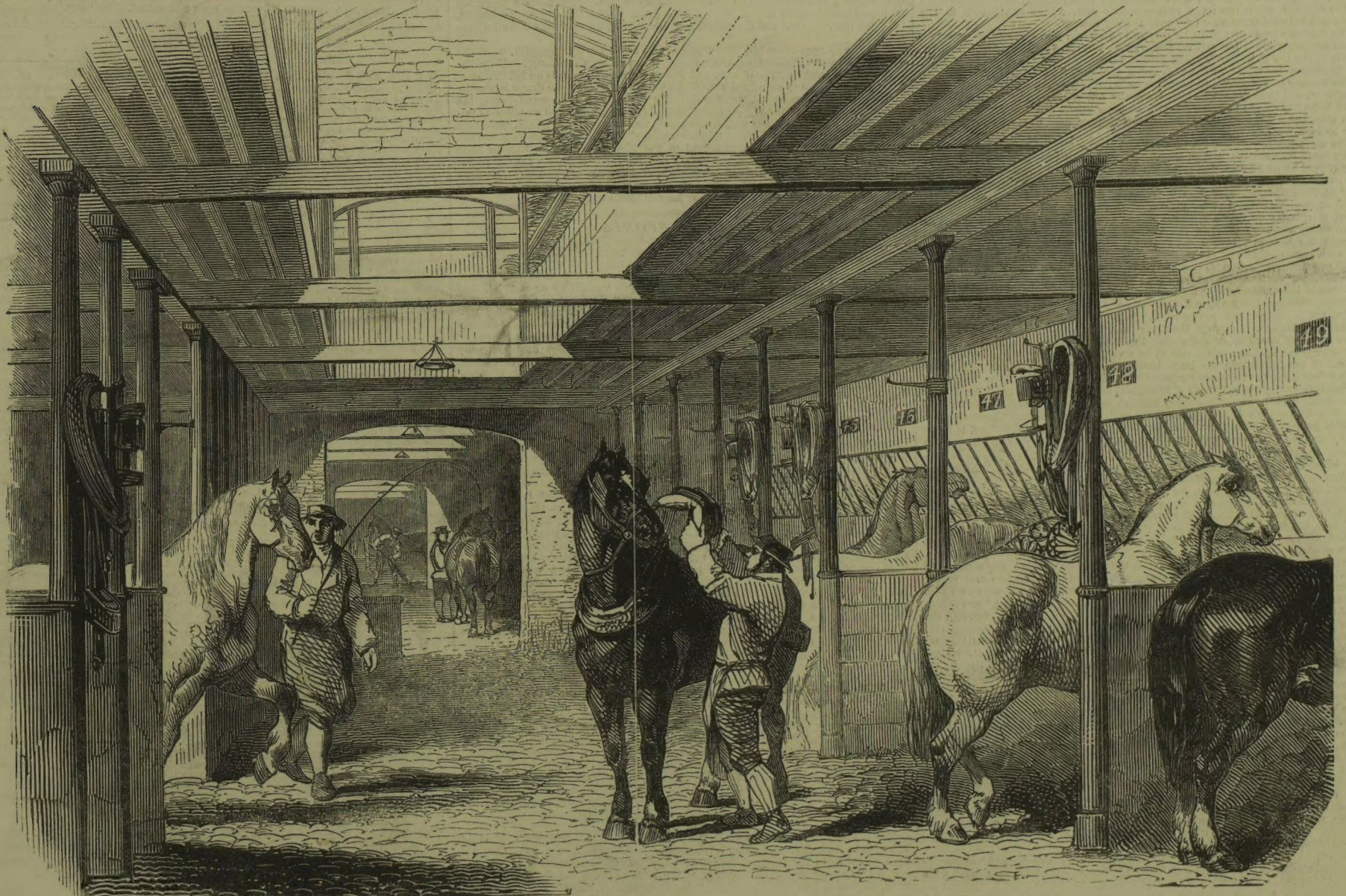
built as speedily as possible, with all the advantages of improved constructive skill, both as regards the premises and machinery: iron, stone, and brick are the materials chiefly employed, and all possible provision made for the speedy extinction of fire, by a plentiful and practical supply of water.

The precise extent of the Brewery can scarcely be explained without a ground plan; but it may be sufficient to state that, having crossed by Southwark-bridge to the Surrey side, we descend from the Bridge-road to New Park-street, which is flanked by lofty buildings, connected by a covered bridge, or passage; these are ranges of malt-warehouses, extending northward, with a wharf, to Bankside; of themselves a vast block of buildings.

At the termination of New Park-street, we proceed southward, through Park-street, both sides of which are occupied by the Brewery buildings, extending se-

veral hundred feet, and connected by a light suspension-bridge. To the right, is the vast Brew-house itself, and the principal entrance-gate, fronting which are the offices and counting-houses.

Before we start, we may explain that from the roof of a large building (the tun-room), nearly in the middle of the premises, may be obtained a bird's-eye view of nearly all the various parts of the establishment. Towards the north-east, on the river-side, is the wharf already mentioned, whence beer is shipped for exportation; to the north, are the two ranges of malt-warehouses, separated by New Park-street, and connected by the covered bridge, as also described; westward, is an open court, containing an engine-house, with all the steam-engine apparatus, two water-reservoirs, a cooperage, a building where casks are cleansed, sheds for containing empty casks, and various other buildings; southward, is a



THE STABLES.

MRS. A. NEWTON AND MR. G. CASE beg to announce to their Friends and the Public that their ANNUAL CONCERT will take place at the LONDON TAYLOR, Monday evening, Feb. 8th, 1847. Vocal Performers, Miss Rainforth, Madame F. Lablache, Mrs. A. Newton, Mr. W. Harris, Signor F. Lablache, Mr. N. J. Spore, and Mr. John Parry; Instrumental, Miss E. Ward, Messrs. P. Chatterton, R. Blagrove, J. Ward, J. Case, and G. Case; Conductors, Mr. C. Severn and Mr. Howard Glover. Tickets, 3s. Reserved Seats (numbered), 5s. To be had of Mrs. Newton, 45, Lower Belgrave-place, Pimlico; Mr. Case, 51, Great Court-street, Russell-square; Mr. Case, 31, Bishopsgate-street, at the Music Shops, and at the London Tavern.

WALHALLA, late Miss Linwood's Gallery, Leicester-square.—Under the Patronage of the Nobility, Gentry, and Several Distinguished Members of the Royal Academy. MADAME WATSON'S UNRIVALLED TABLEAU VIVANS, with increased attraction. MADAME WATSON will appear, by particular desire, in her much admired personation of INNOCECE and SAPHO every evening during the week. The Public Press has unanimously declared this exhibition to be the best of the present day. Each Tableau accompanied with Descriptive Music, by a Band of first-rate talent, conducted by Herr Redl. The Appointments by Messrs. Adams, of the Royal Gardens, Vauxhall. Morning Performance at 3; Evening at Half-past 8. Stalls, 3s.; Reserved Seats, 2s.; Promenade, 1s. Juveniles to the Stalls and Reserved Seats, Half-Price.

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DRY AND WET BULB THERMOMETERS. Description, Theory, Directions for using for Meteorological Purposes; also in Regulating the Temperature and Humidity of the Air in the Sick Chamber, in Hothouses, Greenhouses, Conservatories, Manufactories, &c. &c. With Tables, showing by inspection the Elastic Force of Vapour, or the quantity of water, mixed with the air; the weight of Vapour in a cubic foot of Air; the additional quantity required to saturate it; the degree of humidity of the Air, &c. &c. for every degree of the Thermometers between 10 deg. and 90 deg. B. JAMES GLAISHER, Esq., of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich. R. and J. E. TAYLOR, Red-lion-court, Fleet-street.

NEW ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY PERIODICAL, PRICE 1d.; STAMPED, 2d. **HOWITT'S JOURNAL OF LITERATURE AND PROGRESS.** Edited by WILLIAM and MARY HOWITT, supported by the first talent of the age. Early Numbers contained or will contain articles by Leigh Hunt, Barry Cornwall, Dr. Southwood Smith, W. J. Fox, Miss Mitford, Miss Bremer, K. H. Horns, Dr. Carpenter, Dr. Smiles, Dr. Bowring, Ebenezer Elliott, &c. &c. The first Monthly Part is now published, and Mr. and Mrs. Howitt cannot but express their grateful sense of the instantaneous confidence of the public in them, this Journal having within the first month reached a circulation of upwards of Twenty Thousand, and still rapidly progressing. "William and Mary Howitt have no further literary connexion with 'The People's Journal.'" Published (for the Proprietor) at 171, Strand, corner of Surrey-street.

TO READING FAMILIES. Just Published,

THE NEW CATALOGUE of the extensive and valuable Subscription Library, Conduit-street, Hanover-square. With a view of meeting the increasing demand for works of a more valuable and standard character than are usually found in circulating Libraries, the Proprietors have very considerably augmented their collection in History, Biography, Divinity, Belles Lettres, Moral and Political Philosophy, Voyages, Travels, &c. Every New Publication of interest is added immediately to the Library; and to assist subscribers in the choice of New Works, Catalogues are furnished gratuitously. The terms of subscription for families throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland, may be had gratis and post free, on application to Messrs. SAUNDERS and OTLEY, Publishers, Conduit-street.

JONES' £4 4s. SILVER LEVER WATCHES are selling at the Manufactory, 338, Strand, opposite Somerset House. They comprise every modern improvement, and are warranted to run at least half a minute per week. The great reduction of price at once sets aside all rivalry, either of the Swiss manufacturers, or any other house. On receipt of a Post-office order payable to John Jones for £4 4s., one will be sent free.—Read Jones' Sketch of Watchwork, sent free for a Twopenny Stamp.

GROSSMITH'S ARTIFICIAL HUMAN EYE MANUFACTORY, 175, FLEET-STREET (Established by J. B. Sleath, 1760). These superb glasses of art are made by William Grossmith in a few hours, with little or no operation or pain, in every case where the sight has been lost. They are recommended by all the ophthalmic surgeons as protective to the cavity and preventive of the wasting and closing of the lids; the colour is perfectly matched, the movement precise with the natural eye, and the closest observers will not detect them from life.—* Forwarded by post to all parts of the world.

THE NEWLY-INVENTED INFLATED INDIA-RUBBER ELASTIC WHEEL APPLIED TO INVALID CHAIRS.—These Wheels give the Invalid's Carriage a gentleness of motion that cannot possibly be attained by springs. They are absolutely silent over paved and gravel roads. They are much lighter and easier drawn than common wheels. And for gardens and pleasure grounds they possess the additional advantage that they may be drawn over the lawn and soft gravel walks without leaving the slightest track. For sale (under the patentee's licence) at G. MINTER'S Bath and Brighton Wheel Chair Manufactory, 33, Gerrard-street, Soho.

TEAS at WHOLESALE PRICES, 2, BUCKLESBURY, CHEAPSIDE.

Good Useful Breakfast Tea	3s. 6d. to 3s. 4d.
Fine Do. Pekoe Flavoured	3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.
Rich Pekoe Souchong	4s. 4d. to 5s. 0d.
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Fine Imperial Gunpowder	4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.
Superior Young Hyson	5s. 0d. to 5s. 4d.
Fineest Gunpowder	7s. 0d. to 7s. 4d.

Six pounds of the above delivered free of carriage to any part of England. MANSFIELD and CO., Wholesale Tea Dealers, 2, Bucklebury, Cheapside.

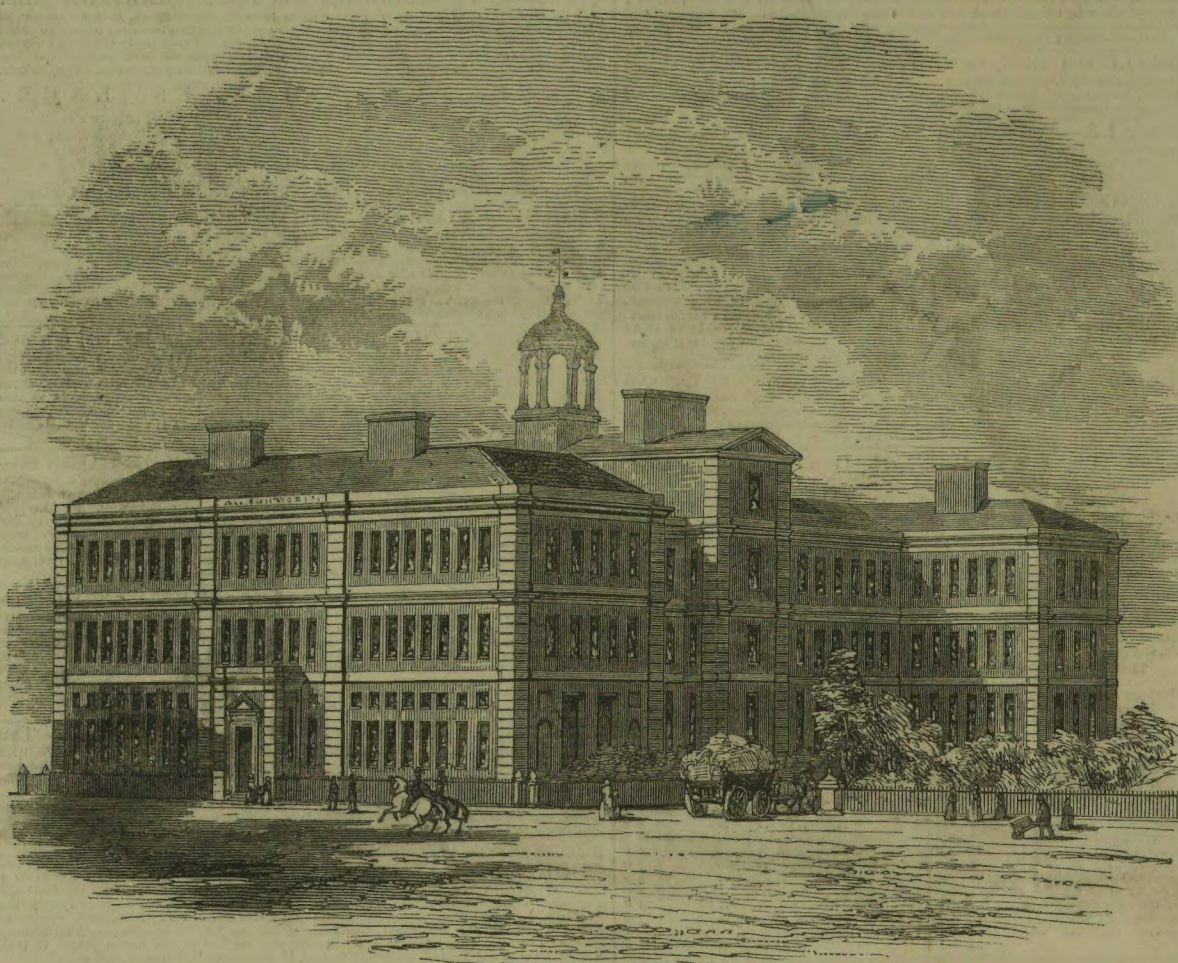
GREAT SALE at GEORGE SMITH'S, 32, Ludgate-hill (late Russell and Bridge's).—The progress of GEORGE SMITH'S NEW SYSTEM of BUSINESS renders it imperative that EXTENSIVE ALTERATIONS and ADDITIONS be immediately made to his premises. To prevent the unavoidable damage to goods by the operations of DEMOLISHING and REBUILDING, he is compelled to submit to the ruinous loss of a "SELLING OFF." The reduction of prices upon the greatest portion of the Stock will vary from 25 to 50 PER CENT.; and, in making this statement, George Smith begs to impress an additional fact upon the Ladies, that, whilst they calculate a saving of ONE QUARTER to ONE HALF in their purchases, they must remember that it is NOT UPON OLD STOCK, but upon the latest and best goods, the whole of which have been manufactured within a very few months. Comment upon the quality and description of goods is unnecessary; they are well known by the public to consist in every variety of moderate and useful, as well as the highest class of manufacture, under the following heads:—INDIA, CHINESE, FRENCH, and BRITISH Shawls, Silks, Brocades, Satins, Satin Traces, Velvets, Merinoes, Cashmeres, Delaines, Woollen and Printed Muslin Dresses, Fancy Handkerchiefs, Scarfs, and Shawls. Cloaks and Furs, Damask Table Linen, Sheetings, &c. Swiss Curtains, &c. &c. The Sale will continue about three weeks. Every article marked in plain figures.

COALS ARE CHEAPER.—The METROPOLITAN COMPANY'S present prices for Cash are—Best Seacord Wallend, 48s. 6d. per ton; Seacord, 26s. 6d.; Small Coal, 14s.; Coke, 17s. 6d.—Office, 279, High Holborn, opposite Red Lion-street.

FOUR FIRES FOR ONE PENNY!!! by EDWARDS' PATENT FIREWOOD.—It lights instantly, and saves money, time, and trouble. Sold by all respectable oilmen and grocers. Families in the country supplied with 500, delivered to the carrier, on receipt of a post-office order for 10s., payable to Thomas Stevenson, No. 18, Wharfedale, City-road.

PURE ST JULIEN CLARET, 28s. per Dozen; Pints, 18s.; imported direct by HEDGES and BUTLER, Wine Merchants, &c., 155, Regent-street, can be confidently recommended. Also, some superior Gordon's Golden Sherry, 36s. per Dozen. On the receipt of a Post-office order, or reference, will be immediately forwarded.

CURRALL and SON, importers of COGNAC BRANDY of the highest quality.—Choice old pale, at 60s.; and brown, at 48s. per dozen. Bottles, 2s. per dozen. Brandy, 1s. 2s. 3s. 4s. 5s. 6s. 7s. 8s. 9s. 10s. 11s. 12s. 13s. 14s. 15s. 16s. 17s. 18s. 19s. 20s. 21s. 22s. 23s. 24s. 25s. 26s. 27s. 28s. 29s. 30s. 31s. 32s. 33s. 34s. 35s. 36s. 37s. 38s. 39s. 40s. 41s. 42s. 43s. 44s. 45s. 46s. 47s. 48s. 49s. 50s. 51s. 52s. 53s. 54s. 55s. 56s. 57s. 58s. 59s. 60s. 61s. 62s. 63s. 64s. 65s. 66s. 67s. 68s. 69s. 70s. 71s. 72s. 73s. 74s. 75s. 76s. 77s. 78s. 79s. 80s. 81s. 82s. 83s. 84s. 85s. 86s. 87s. 88s. 89s. 90s. 91s. 92s. 93s. 94s. 95s. 96s. 97s. 98s. 99s. 100s. 101s. 102s. 103s. 104s. 105s. 106s. 107s. 108s. 109s. 110s. 111s. 112s. 113s. 114s. 115s. 116s. 117s. 118s. 119s. 120s. 121s. 122s. 123s. 124s. 125s. 126s. 127s. 128s. 129s. 130s. 131s. 132s. 133s. 134s. 135s. 136s. 137s. 138s. 139s. 140s. 141s. 142s. 143s. 144s. 145s. 146s. 147s. 148s. 149s. 150s. 151s. 152s. 153s. 154s. 155s. 156s. 157s. 158s. 159s. 160s. 161s. 162s. 163s. 164s. 165s. 166s. 167s. 168s. 169s. 170s. 171s. 172s. 173s. 174s. 175s. 176s. 177s. 178s. 179s. 180s. 181s. 182s. 183s. 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ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, PADDINGTON.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, PADDINGTON.

In our Journal of date July 5, 1845, we illustrated the interesting ceremony of his Royal Highness Prince Albert laying the foundation-stone of this much-needed Hospital. The good work is now in active progress; and, for the purpose of raising the funds necessary for its completion, a public dinner took place on Tuesday last, at the London Tavern, which was attended by between two and three hundred persons.

In a statement and appeal put forth by the Committee, it appears that the sphere for the operations and benefits of St. Mary's Hospital will be the western district of the parish of Marylebone, the whole of the parish of Paddington, with Bayswater and Kensal-green, part of the parish of Willesden, and part of the parish of Kensington; that this immense area already contains 170,000 persons, of whom a large portion are in very humble, if not destitute circumstances; and that the deaths exceed an average of 3000 a year, occurring chiefly amongst the poor. These facts, with others, show how urgently St. Mary's Hospital is required in the above quarter. It is intended that the Hospital shall be equal in magnitude to any in the kingdom, and the Committee are now in possession of ground an acre and a quarter in extent. The building is ultimately to contain beds for nearly 400 patients; and the design, supplied by Mr. Hopper, the honorary architect, will permit advantage to be taken of every improvement which has been recently introduced into any other hospital, either in England or on the Continent.

The estimated cost of erecting and completing the three-fourths alone of the entire building is £34,000; of which sum, the cost of erecting and completing the portion now in actual progress of erection will be £19,000. To enable the Committee to complete that portion of the Hospital which is now in progress, further subscriptions are required, to the amount of £8000, in addition to which, a still further sum of about £3000 will be required to furnish and open the Hospital for the reception of patients.

The foundations for about three-fourths of the building have been laid; but, at present, the eastern portion alone is in progress. This will, when completed, contain beds for 150 patients; and will comprise the board-room, the chapel, the operating theatre, and the other principal offices required for the entire building in its finished state.

The entertainment of Tuesday was well served by Messrs. Bathe and Breach, the proprietors of the Tavern.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge presided, and was supported on the right and left by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Bishop of Tasmania, Sir J. L. Lushington, Rear-Admiral Sykes, Hon. Captain Percy, Colonel Sykes, B. B. Cabbell, Esq.; H. F. Thistlethwayte, Esq.; the Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, Sir Benjamin Hall, Sir Walter Stirling, Mr. Broughton, Admiral Sir Charles Napier, Rev. Mr. Campbell, W. Eyre, Esq.; H. M. Kemshead, Esq.; Captain Whiteman, Mr. Sergeant Channell, W. Kindersley, Esq., and others.

The cloth having been removed, "Non Nobis" was sung by Messrs. Hobbs and Co., who, with the band of the Coldstream Guards, pleasantly diversified the proceedings of the evening.

After the usual loyal toasts had been given,

The Chairman proposed "The Army and Navy."

Admiral Sykes and Sir J. L. Lushington returned thanks.

His Royal Highness then gave "The Church," and the Bishop of Tasmania returned thanks in a forcible and eloquent address.

The Duke of Cambridge then proposed "The health of the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London."

The Lord Mayor returned thanks.

His Royal Highness then gave "Prosperity to St. Mary's Hospital." He said that, from the increase of the population in the western district, a Hospital should be erected for the reception of the infirm poor. The first stone was laid last year, by Prince Albert, and the Prince George of Cambridge presided over the festival. The prospects of the Institution were encouraging; and, although there was a deficit in the funds, they were not to lose all hope. They must remember that Rome was not built in a day; and they could not expect a work of this magnitude to be completed without very considerable exertion. His Royal Highness trusted that, within a very short time, he should see the building completed, and a College established, in connection with it, for medical students. He wished the undertaking every success.

Sir B. Hall thanked his Royal Highness for the countenance he had given to the Institution on the present occasion.

Sir C. Napier promised to afford it his utmost assistance.

The Lord Mayor proposed "The health of the Duke of Cambridge."

His Royal Highness, in reply, declared that if he had in any way contributed to the advancement of the institution by his presence, he was amply compensated.

Mr. B. Bond Cabbell replied to the toast in honour of the Vice-Presidents.

The Rev. A. M. Campbell returned thanks for the trustees, and

The Rev. J. S. Boone, in an effective speech, acknowledged the toast in honour of the Committee.

His Royal Highness then left the chair, and the company immediately separated.

The amount of subscriptions during the evening was very favourable to the interests of the Hospital. It realised nearly £1,700.

The Hospital is built with red brick, similar to Chelsea Hospital, and is a plain, massive structure. It contains wards for the sick and for accidents; contagious wards, completely separated from all other parts of the building; an anatomy ward; a dispensary; an operating theatre; a chapel, and various rooms for the establishment. The warming and ventilation will be by means of the circulation of properly-tempered atmospheric air; and the foul air will be effectually drawn from the wards. Means are provided for the reception of the sufferers from accident without subjecting them to the increased misery of being carried up steps; the food will be conveyed from the kitchen to the various wards by shafts, and the medicines will be conveyed from the laboratory in a similar manner; and the whole building is arranged upon the plan of convenient application, in conformity to the suggestions of the medical gentlemen.

THE PATENT MILE-INDEX.

A SIMPLE and ingenious contrivance for measuring and indicating the distance travelled by wheel carriages, has been invented and patented by Mr. H. Von Uster, of the College for Civil Engineers, Putney.

The invention is equally applicable to private carriages as to cabs and other public vehicles, one of its advantages being that there is nothing unsightly in the apparatus, which, indeed, can scarcely be seen at all when the carriage is in motion. A plano-spiral rotator is concealed within the hoop of the nave of one of the hind wheels, and gives action to a shaft, or small rod of iron, which is carried horizontally nearly as far as the opposite wheel. At this point, a universal joint connects the horizontal with a vertical rod, which latter continues the action into the body of the carriage under the seat. Here, two or three wheels give motion to a suitable shaft or chain, which is concealed between the panels of one side of the carriage, and terminates near the roof in a dial-plate, provided with two faces, one inside for the use of the passenger, and the other outside, in which the driver and his fare can together note the position of the hands before the latter steps into the cab. Both dials have exactly the face of a clock, being furnished with an hour and a minute hand; and hours, half-hours, and minutes, are indicated on the dial precisely as in the ordinary time-piece. As the hands perform the circuit of the dial, the divisions of hours, half-hours, and minutes, correspond exactly with the miles, half-miles, and fractions of a mile actually traversed by the vehicle. Thus, if the dial indicate 20 minutes past 12 when the passenger enters the cab, he will know that he has travelled exactly a mile when the dial within points to 20 minutes past 1; a mile and a half when it points to 10 minutes to 2; two miles when it arrives at 20 minutes past 2; two miles and a half at 10 minutes to three; three miles at 20 minutes past three; and so on. A small circle within the dial face, with a pointer answering to the second-hands of a watch, enables the owner of the carriage to satisfy himself as to the total number of miles which the vehicle has travelled to any given period.

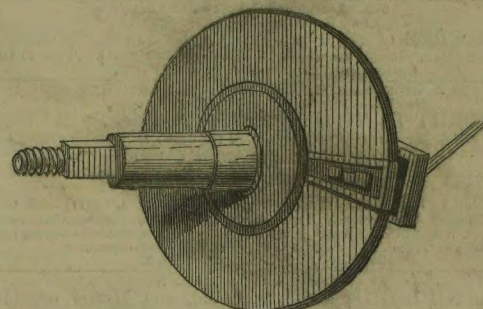
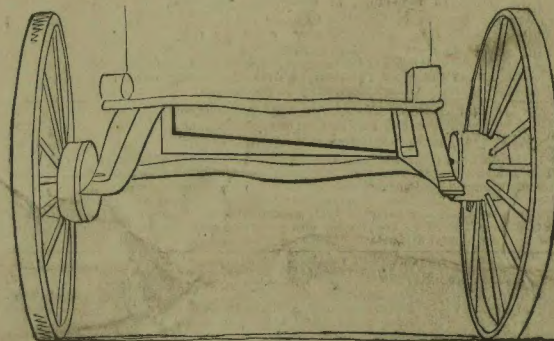


PLATE ON WHICH THE SCREW WORKS.

The passenger is thus supplied with a perfect check against overcharge, while the proprietor has the means of knowing the amount of mileage actually performed. The convenience and simplicity of adopting, as the index of distance, a method of calculation so familiar as the face of a clock supplies, need hardly be pointed out.

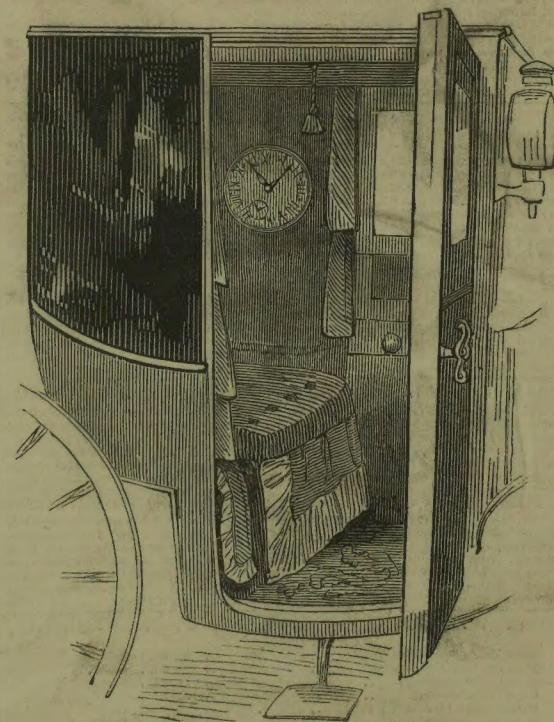
The possibility of tampering with the apparatus has been effectually prevented. The dials are protected by a thick glass, which must be broken before the hands can be reached; and even then they cannot be put backwards or forwards, but must be broken if moved at all. The wheels of the Index under the seat are boarded over, and cannot be reached; the shaft or chain which connects them with the dial is enclosed within the panel of the carriage, and there remains only the iron rod under the carriage that can be approached from without. This may be wrenched or bent by force, but in that case the action of the Index would cease altogether. It may probably be necessary to protect this rod by spikes behind the carriage, or by what is, we believe, called an opera board, or even to enclose it in a small wooden tube; in which latter case it would, like all the rest of the apparatus, be rendered entirely inaccessible.

The principle on which the Index is connected with the motive power admits of the former being fixed or placed in any part of the carriage, and can, therefore, for private use, be put in a neat box, into the seat of the same.



ROD AND TUBE AT THE BACK OF CARRIAGE.

There can be no doubt that the application of the Mile-Index to public carriages—particularly to cabs—would be very satisfactory to the public; and that a very large increase of passengers would be the result, were they protected from the chance of overcharge, which they may be by this invention.

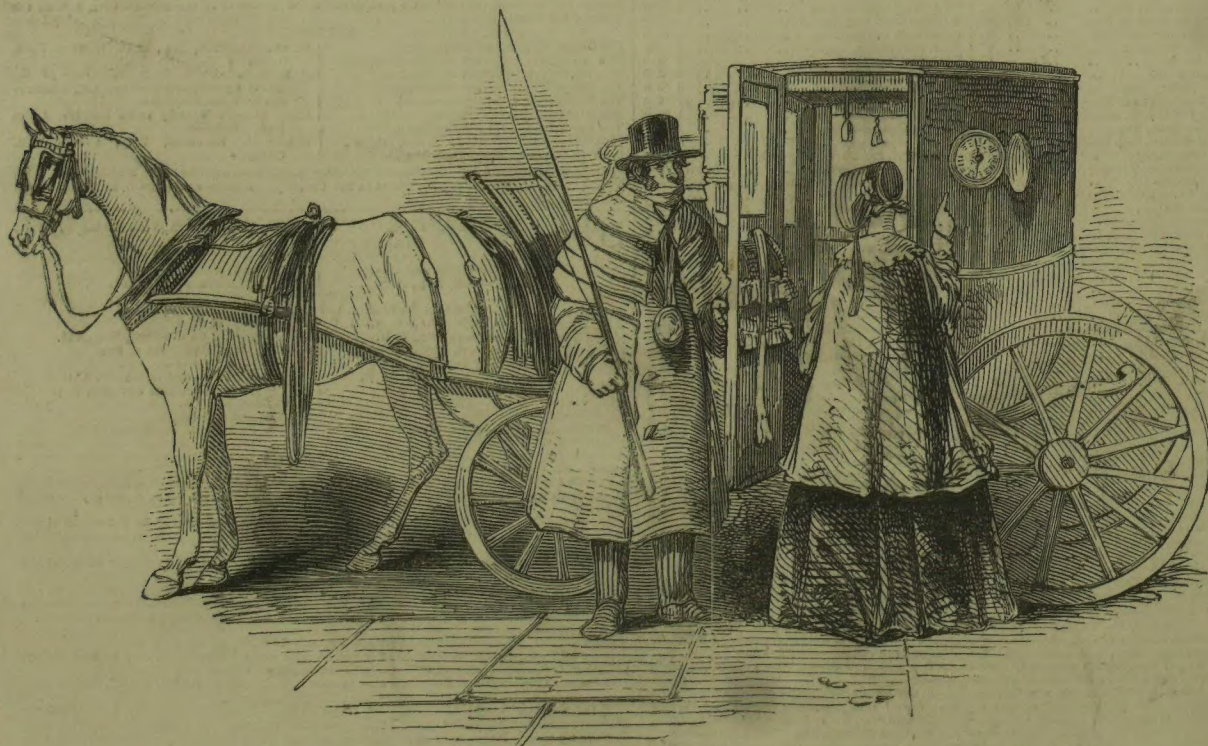


INTERIOR OF CAB, SHOWING INDEX.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.—The annual account of the sums received and expended by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt in the year ending the 5th of January, 1847, has been prepared and presented. The creditor side of the account exhibits a sum total of £3,578,721, arising from cash received at sundry times from the Exchequer, and interest on stock, &c. The debtor side shows the following items—viz., a sum of £9700 paid for £10,130 Reduced Annuities, £263,102 for £273,849 Consols, £689,797 for £718,853 Reduced, £46,925 for £49,291 Old South Sea Stock, £149,609 for £157,900 New South Sea Stock, £3802 for £4000 Three per Cent. Annuities (1751), £14,849 for £15,664 Three per Cent. Annuities (1726), and £2,400,000 for Exchequer Bills.

THE LIVERPOOL CORN SPECULATORS.—A letter from Liverpool, of Tuesday, says:—"Prices of corn and flour are giving way in right good earnest, and such of the speculators as are obliged to get out, find great difficulty in doing so. Western Canal flour has been sold to-day at 38s. 6d.; Indian corn is dull at 68s.; and, altogether, the market is greatly lower. The stock of hoarded American barrel-flour is enormous in this port. Half a million barrels of flour are now stored in Liverpool, and not less than 300,000 quarters of corn, so the speculators have good cause for alarm. To-day's fall in flour is 2s. 6d. per barrel, and 4s. on Indian corn."

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EXTERIOR OF CAB, WITH INDEX.